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Christmas shopping with purpose

SHARON LYNCH
Down Our Road

THERE WAS JUST a scattering of dry snow traced along the sidewalks and over the rock-hard lawns. A teeth-chattering wind pushed at Maggie's back, helping to propel her toward her destination. Her eyes watered in the cold.

This was her seasonal trek to the Woolworth's store, nine blocks away from home and the repository of all things bright and enticing. In her pocket rested months' of saved allowances. Maggie had been giving Christmas gifts to her family for a few years now but this was the first time she had her own money to make the purchases.

In the past her mother had given her a small amount which she had augmented with her hand-made creations. These had been mostly drawings and items made from Plasticine such as an ashtray or a self-portrait. While these had always been greeted with appreciative comments on Christmas morning, Maggie knew in her heart that what people really liked were store-bought presents.

She looked up at the huge store sign scrawled across the front of the building. It was very exciting. Maggie again pushed a mittened hand into her pocket just to reassure herself that the money was still there. The brightly lit store beckoned.

Inside were many grown-ups, some sitting at the lunch counter, others waiting to be served at the candy and nut counter. There was expectation in the air.

Maggie silently counted how many gifts she had to purchase. Grandma, Mom and Dad, Aunt Helen and her two brothers. Six. She hoped she had enough. Where to start, she wondered looking at the aisles leading to the back of the store. There was much from which to choose. Clothing, jewelry, housewares, hardware items and small animals as well as the candies and nuts which she found especially tempting. But, she reminded herself, she was there to buy for others, not herself.

A necklace of blue rhinestones was almost hypnotic in its beauty and Maggie could imagine her grandmother wearing it as she served Sunday tea. It went into the cart. In the housewares department, shiny aluminum pots and pans gleamed as her mother's never did. An array of aprons, ruffled or plain called from another counter. Her mother liked green so Maggie chose a turquoise creation with patch pockets and lace trim. Perfect for cooking the Christmas turkey, she thought. Her father was hard to buy for but she eventually settled on a red-handled screw driver.

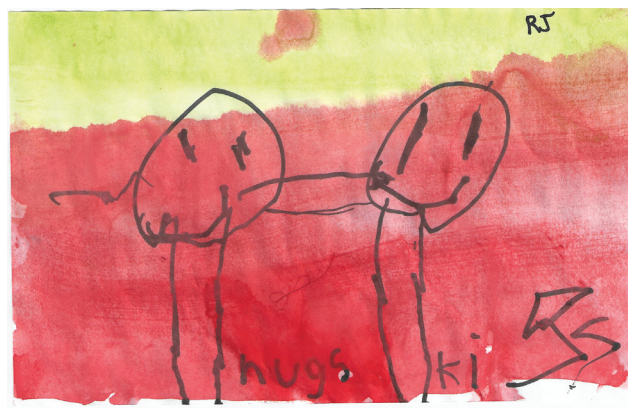
Now the brothers, she thought. A small turtle appealed to Maggie but she couldn't afford the accessories so passed it by. Instead she settled for a large colouring book and crayons for one and paddle with a string-attached rubber ball for the other. Then she realized she had nearly forgotten Aunt Helen. Almost out of money, she walked up and down the aisles looking for something suitable. Then she spied crisp embroidered handkerchiefs in their own flat boxes and that finished up her shopping.

Fortunately there was enough money left for her to treat herself to a butterscotch sundae at the lunch counter. Feeling very grown up, Maggie perched on one of the stools and savoured the richly sweet treat. Around her, mostly female shoppers ebbed and flowed while parakeets and canaries chirped in their cages close by.

It had been a satisfying excursion she thought as she began to make her way home. Dusk came early this time of year and as she walked she enjoyed the Christmas lights now appearing on the street. Red and green glowed from shrubs, yellow and blue ran around door frames and windows. Huge wreaths hung illuminated by spotlights tucked in the thin snow,

Approaching her own house, Maggie saw her dad was just putting the finishing touches on their own light display. His face was red from the cold and he stood on the old wooden step-ladder like a circus performer about to leap into the air. She smiled. How surprised he would be to receive the screw driver instead of her self-portrait this year. Then Maggie thought of the others for whom she had scoured the store. She fervently hoped they all liked her gifts as much as she had enjoyed buying them.

Family traditions from the students in Mrs. Little and Ms. Hewitt's KA class at Archie Stouffer Elementary School.



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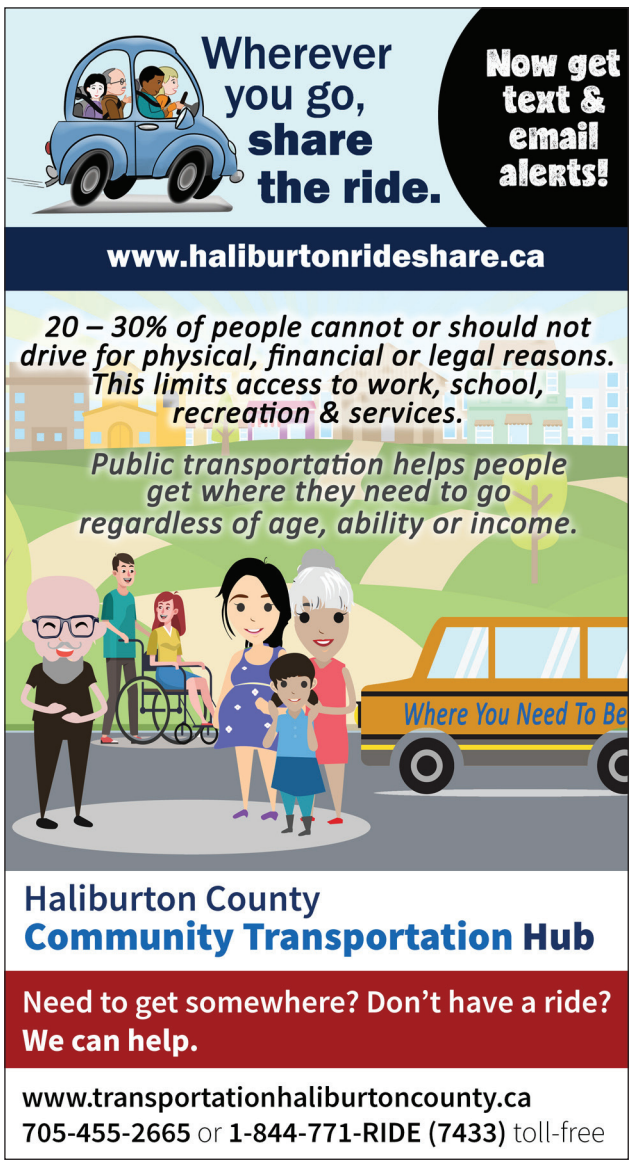
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Santa visits Extendicare

Irene Armstrong, 99, showed she's young at heart by sitting on Santa's lap for a cuddle.

Neva Hobden, left, president of the Proud Pioneers (Extendicare Haliburton Residents' Association) accepted a $500 cheque from Tina Hadley, Haliburton and District Lions Club treasurer. This is the third year the Lions have contributed to the Proud Pioneers and gathered at the holiday sing-along. /SUE TIFFIN Staff

Santa Claus found a stuffed animal in his sack of toys for each resident and community member enjoying a festive sing-along with Gord Kidd and Brad Sales at Extendicare on Dec. 7. /SUE TIFFIN Staff

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Send your letters to the editor to jenn@haliburtonpress.com. Letters must be signed and include a phone number.

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Top 10 wrapping hacks

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

THERE ARE cleaning hacks, cooking hacks, storage hacks but as far as I know, no one has been brave enough to handle the scariest issue of the holiday season. That's why I'm going to give you my top 10 hacks for wrapping holiday gifts.

1. Keep the Scotch tape away from the cats: Oh sure, it's a lot of fun to see one or two cats stuck helplessly to the wall or Christmas tree, but when they are still attached to your only roll of tape, it can become a problem.
2. Big bows: Most people (OK, I'm basically talking about males) are horrible at wrapping. Seams are crooked, paper is rumpled, parts of the gift are left exposed. That's where huge bows come in handy – at minimum, the size of a dinner plate. A big bow like that can hide a multitude of wrapping errors.
3. The cartoon option: Long ago, some cheap genius decided he didn't need to buy wrapping paper since he had hoarded cartoon sections from a big city newspaper. That's when the cartoon wrapping paper option was born. It still works but only if you don't get your cartoons from adult magazines. Remember that.
4. Bags and tissue: To the amateur, the old bag and tissue wrap seems like a godsend. It is, providing you remember not to cheap out by using clear produce bags and recycled tissue.
5. You need to use Scotch tape not scotch and tape.
6. Buy gifts too big to wrap: You can get out of wrapping altogether if you buy a really big gift like a car or forklift, which you can just park in the driveway. It might seem expensive but it gets you out of peeling tape off of your eyebrows after a complicated wrapping job.
7. Get the labels right. You don't want your wife to get the hula dancer bottle opener and your buddy to get the frilly nightgown.
8. Don't try to wrap any pet that has teeth.
9. Never buy a gift that cannot be placed in a rectangular box. Wrapping is hard enough with complex angles.
10. Ask for a thumb: If a person, any person, walks in the room when you are wrapping a gift, ask them to help by pressing a thumb either on the gift to hold wrapping paper in place or on a ribbon so you can tie a bow. When they do that, leave the room. Eventually, they'll get tired of waiting and finish the job for you.

Healthful holiday hints from the health unit

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit is out with its healthy wise buys list for 2017. Several gift items are suggested as options for people in Haliburton County, Northumberland County and the City of Kawartha Lakes who want to provide the gift of "good health" this festive season.

Specific items on the health unit's healthy wise buys list for 2017 include:

Car emergency kits – The kits are ideal in the event of a car breakdown or emergency. Kits should contain items like a tow rope, jumper cables, warning flares, small fold-up shovel, wind-up flashlight, blanket and bottled water. Complete car emergency kits are sold in stores, or can be assembled yourself. A list of items to include in the kit is available at www.getprepared.gc.ca.

Meat thermometer – Perfect for someone who loves to cook or barbecue, meat thermometers are key for measuring the safe internal temperature of meats to ensure they are properly cooked. Complement the gift by visiting the Healthy Canadians website www.healthycanadians.gc.ca and searching, then printing off the Safe Internal Cooking Temperature Chart.

A set of new or used snowshoes – Snowshoeing helps build strength, agility, balance and endurance. If cost is an issue, look for used snowshoes through second-hand sports equipment stores or websites.

Cook book – Encourage healthy eating by getting a recipe book for someone on your shopping list. Personalize the gift by offering a cooking demo or lesson with it. Dietitians of Canada (www.dietitians.ca) has excellent recipe books to consider, as well as online.

Items to prevent falls – Falls are a leading cause of injury for both the very young and old. For an older adult, purchasing a walker or cane can help to prevent falls; so too can installing grab bars in their bathroom to help them sit and stand. This winter, offering to shovel the walkway and driveway of an older family member or neighbor is also a great gift idea. For families expecting a baby or who have a young child, consider giving gates (pressure-mounted gates at the bottom of stairs; wall-mounted gates at the top of stairs) to prevent falls. Quick-release window guards can also be a best buy to keep young children safe from falling through upper-floor windows.

Gift of time – Setting aside time to do something with a child, older parent or other family member can be precious and priceless. Consider something you both enjoy, be it an outdoor winter activity, going on a day trip, seeing a movie, doing a craft, playing a game, or working on a building project. The ideas are only limited by your creativity!

Everyone in Larry Strong's house is enjoying Christmas this year - even the cat! / Photo submitted

Footsteps

Sky molting feathers of snow, blurring the Air,
Smearing the trees, blotting the crows cawing somewhere above me,
Scribbling their way through the snow,
Leading me through the forest toward the sculptures of stone,
toward the two faceless figures curled on a boulder,
their wailes veiled by a shroud of snow.
I stop and place my hands on one of their shoulders,
cupping their sorrow, releasing my own, slowing my heart that gallops in my chest,
glimpsing up with the nests, tiny as burrs,
cradling in the branches of naked trees,
wondering whether they mourn their missing leaves.
I whisper, thank you, to the limbless twins,
leave them be, together, alone, at my feet follow strangers' footprints along the path,
toward the woman sleeping in stone,
her reverie thawing something frozen within me,
as I stare at her slumber, but not for too long,
not wanting to disturb her peace, the boot prints leading me toward a stone dome,
where I rest my weariness on a bench inside,
silence throbbing in the dark quieting my thrashing heart,
listening only to my breath,
the silence deepening as I stare up through the hole in the top of the dome,
a circle of blank sky and clots of snow, melting into the veins and arteries of trees,
feels like I'm resting in a giant nest,
my breath slowing as I take deep swigs of silence before stepping back outside,
whiteness swirling around me, blinding me, the strangers' footsteps fading in the snow.
I follow them along the path, that's the snowman clutching a leaf,
pausing to poke his belly, past the conspiracy of ravens,
frozen in flight, stopping to stroke their metal wings,
as squawks of crows bleed through the snow.
The boot prints grow fainter, no feet to follow but my own,
as I plod my own path through the snow, toward the clearing,
Where I cup my face up to Sky, its blankness unfurrowing my brow,
snowflakes anointing my forehead, trickling down my cheeks like tears.
I stand Here, Frozen as the statues that consoled me,
wondering whether it was the weather or my own heart that conspired to lead me into the forest today to follow the footsteps of strangers, who tread this path before me, carrying and releasing their own burdens in the snow.

Sylvie Kalenda
December, 2017

A holiday plant/family tradition

BELINDA GALLAGHER
Garden Musings

AS THE CHRISTMAS season approaches, we often chat with friends about "what they are doing" for the holidays. Most are happy to regale us with old traditions carried on from generation to generation or new rituals started by accident.

One such story came out when we were at the Haliburton Just Wine & Beer store the other day. Owner, Matt shared his recent tale of the tree – tromping though his property for hours to find the perfect 16-foot, seven-and-a-half-inch balsam fir that would bring joy t o his significant other. The look on his face suggested details that were best kept to himself, which, thankfully, he did.

The tree hunt is a familiar event that reminded me how plants are often tied to celebrations. Valentine's Day = roses, Saint Patrick's Day = clover, Easter = lilies, you get the gist. This time of year is no different. There are Christmas trees, evergreen wreaths, holiday poinsettias, mistletoe, holly, cyclamen, and the subject of this musing – amaryllis.

Sold by the millions in North America during the Thanksgiving to Christmas holiday season, these large, fat bulbs are fast growing and flower early in the new year. It is this trait that made the amaryllis a customary gift in my family. We always lived quite far from my grandmother so every year Mom would mail an amaryllis "kit" to her mother who lived in Arkansas. Shortly thereafter we would receive a weekly note describing the growth of the bulb.

"Two inches taller, this week, dear," Nanny would write in her bold, schoolteacher script. "Oh my, the stem is thick and two feet tall now. I think there will be a bud soon!" the next message would read. A few weeks later we would receive a small photo of the plant in flower, usually with my grandmother's delicate hand pointing to a bright red, trumpet shaped bloom.

A photo of the author as a baby with her mother, Susan, and grandmother, Kate. The family overcame distance during the holidays by sending an amaryllis kit in the mail.

Many years later, I found myself living far away from my mother and so decided that an amaryllis "kit" would be a great gift for me to send at Christmas time. It was handy that her birthday was in December so the gift served a dual purpose.

And sure enough, the plant hit the same key as it did with my grandmother. Every few days I would get a phone call from Mom with a report on the growth. "It's a foot tall, honey!" the phone message would say. A week would pass then, "Another three inches in just days." Usually around New Year's Eve, I would hear the delight in her voice as she exclaimed "The buds started showing colour today!"

see page 9

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‘Amaryllis’ comes from the Greek for ‘sparkle’

from page 7

Each year I would send a different variety – the lovely Apple Blossom (deep pink on a pristine white background), Minerva (red and white striped), the mauve Hercules or the butterfly-shaped Papillio. They were all appreciated, but it was the scarlet red of the appropriately named Red Lion that was favoured.

Surprisingly, amaryllis is actually the common name for the bulb Hippeastrum. It is very like the confusion caused by using the common name geranium for the botanical pelargonium when true geraniums are perennial plants. The word amaryllis comes from the Greek word for sparkle and recalls the name of a beautiful shepherdess in classical poetry. Native to South America, accounts say it is was discovered in Chili in the early 1800s by the German plant hunter and botanist, Eduard Friedrich Poeppig.

Although termed tender perennials here in Canada, they are easy plants to force into bloom indoors. Most bulbs come in a kit that includes a pot, the bulb and a light, humus-rich soil that is perfect for good drainage. Follow the package directions, particularly the watering directions – sparingly until the plant starts growing and then more regularly.

If you purchase a bulb on its own, plant it in a pot about an inch larger in diameter than the bulb. Let a third of the bulb protrude above the soil in order to allow maximum space for the roots. Place it in a bright, warm location and regularly rotate the plant so that the hollow stem doesn’t lean in only one direction. When the flowers start to open, the plants can become top-heavy with their four to six flowers so I make sure to plop the plastic pot (and plant) into a larger and heavier decorative container to avoid tipping over.

Amaryllis bulbs blossom into stunning flowers, bringing colour to a dark time of year. This one was from Wilberforce Foodland.

It is worth noting that like its cousins, the daffodils or narcissus, the larger the bulb, the more likely you are to have multiple flowering stems and more flowers per stem!

After flowering, which typically can last up to four weeks, cut the stem back to about an inch or two and let the strappy, dark green leaves grow on to feed the bulb. Place them outdoors in spring after the last frost in a sunny location for the season, remembering to bring them in before the first frost in fall. At that time you need to cut the leaves back to two inches and stop watering. Situate the plants in a dry, dark location (basement or even a closet) and let them rest for 10 to 12 weeks. Then you can start the cycle all over again.

My grandmother and my mother have passed and I especially miss them at this time of the year when holiday plants adorn stores and homes. A couple weeks ago I spotted a Red Lion amaryllis kit in the V&S and added it to the shopping cart. I watch it carefully every day for new growth and send loving thoughts to Mom and Nanny. It is a plant tradition worth keeping.

Family Traditions

From the students in Mrs. Little and Ms. Hewitt's KA class at Archie Stouffer Elementary School.

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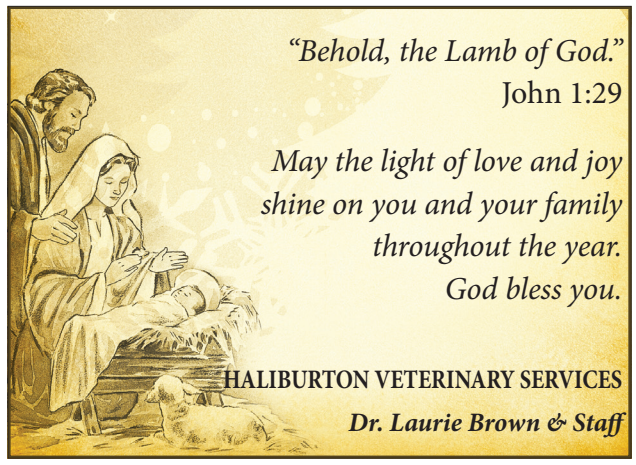
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$159 BI-WEEKLY @ **0.9%** LEASE RATE FOR **48** MONTHS

WITH $1,500 DOWN PAYMENT
OFFER INCLUDES **$1,000** TOTAL VALUE
(INCLUDES $500 GM CARD APPLICATION BONUS)

- STANDARD 9-SPEED AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION
- FOLD-FLAT FRONT PASSENGER SEAT
- NEXT GEN GMC INFOTAINMENT SYSTEM WITH 4 USB PORTS[5]

GMC PRO GRADE PROTECTION:

COMPLIMENTARY 2-YEAR/ 48,000 KM LUBE-OIL-FILTER MAINTENANCE[6]

5-YEAR/160,000 KM POWERTRAIN LIMITED WARRANTY[7]

AVAILABLE ONSTAR 4G LTE WITH BUILT-IN WI-FI® HOTSPOT[2] (3 GB/3 MONTH TRIAL)

Offer valid for a limited time only. Customers can receive up to $1,500 in total Holiday Bonus incentives with the application of a GM Card. Total incentives consist of manufacturer-to-dealer credits (tax-exclusive) and the GM Card Application Bonus (tax-inclusive). GM Card Application Bonus applies to individuals who apply for a Scotiabank® GM® Visa* Card or current Scotiabank® GM® Visa* Cardholders. Credit value depends on model purchased. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Conditions and limitations apply. Void where prohibited. See Dealer for full program details. GM Canada reserves the right to amend or terminate offers for any reason in whole or in part at any time without prior notice. <GMC Holiday > total value valid toward the retail purchase or lease of one eligible new 2017 or 2018 model year <GMC> delivered in Canada between December 1 – January 2, 2018. Total Value consists of $500 manufacturer-to-dealer Holiday Bonus (tax exclusive) delivery credit and manufacturer-to-consumer GM Card Application Bonus (offer applies to individuals who apply for a Scotiabank® GM® Visa* Card [GM Card] or current GM Card cardholders) (tax inclusive). GM Card Application Bonus credit value depends on model purchased: $500 GM Card Bonus on new 2018 Terrain, $750 GM Card Bonus on new 2017 Terrain, Canyon (excluding 2SA), Acadia, Savana, $1,000 GM Card Bonus on new 2017 & 2018 Yukon, Yukon XL, Sierra LD & HD. As part of the transaction, dealer may request documentation and contact General Motors of Canada Company (GM Canada) to verify eligibility. $500 Holiday Bonus is applied against eligible 2017 & 2018 MY vehicles purchased during the program period. 2017 & 2018 MY vehicles not eligible for this offer are: exclusions outlined under GM Card Bonuses above, Spark, BOLT EV and all Cadillac models. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Certain limitations or conditions apply. Void where prohibited. See your GM Canada dealer for details. GM Canada reserves the right to amend or terminate offers for any reason in whole or in part at any time without prior notice. Void where prohibited. See dealer for details. (Lease) Eligible 2018 GMC Sierra Double Cab Elevation Edition: Lease based on suggested retail price of $45,550, includes, $1,000 manufacturer-to-consumer GM Card Application Bonus (offer applies to individuals who apply for a Scotiabank GM Visa Card [GM Card] or current GM Card cardholders) (tax inclusive) and a manufacturer-to-dealer $500 Holiday Bonus (tax exclusive) towards the retail cash purchase, finance or lease for an eligible new 2018 Sierra Double Cab Elevation Edition at participating dealers. Bi-weekly payment is $199 for 48 months at 2.9% interest rate for 48 months on approved credit to qualified retail customers by GM Financial. $3,200 down payment is required. Total obligation is $23,894, plus applicable taxes. Taxes, license, insurance, registration and applicable fees, levies, duties and, except in Quebec, dealer fees (all of which may vary by dealer and region) are extra. Option to purchase at lease end is $20,533. See dealer for details. Discounts vary by model. Dealer may sell for less. Limited time offer, which may not be combined with certain other offers. General Motors of Canada Company may modify, extend or terminate offers in whole or in part at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. Offers may not be redeemed for cash and may not combined with certain other consumer incentives. ®Registered trademark of The Bank of Nova Scotia. 2017 Acadia SLE-1 AWD Total Value $6,250. Limited time offer available to qualified retail customers in Canada. $6,250 Total Value is a combined total credit for finance purchases on select 2017 Acadia SLE-1 AWD; includes: $5,000 non-stackable manufacturer to dealer cash credit (tax exclusive), $500 manufacturer-to-dealer Holiday Bonus (tax exclusive), $750 GM card application bonus (this offer applies to individuals who have applied for the Scotiabank® GM® Visa* Card [GM card] and to current Scotiabank® GM® Visa* Cardholders) (taxes included). (Lease) Eligible 2018 GMC Terrain SLE FWD: Lease based on suggested retail price of $32,040, includes $500 manufacturer-to-consumer GM Card Application Bonus (offer applies to individuals who apply for a Scotiabank GM Visa Card [GM Card] or current GM Card cardholders) (tax inclusive) and a manufacturer-to-dealer $500 Holiday Bonus (tax exclusive) towards the retail cash purchase, finance or lease for an eligible new 2018 GMC Terrain SLE FWD at participating dealers. Bi-weekly payment is $159 for 48 months at 0.9% interest rate for 48 months on approved credit to qualified retail customers by GM Financial. $1,500 down payment is required. Total obligation is $18,076, plus applicable taxes. Taxes, license, insurance, registration and applicable fees, levies, duties and, except in Quebec, dealer fees (all of which may vary by dealer and region) are extra. Option to purchase at lease end is $13,799. See dealer for details. Discounts vary by model. Dealer may sell for less. Limited time offer, which may not be combined with certain other offers. General Motors of Canada Company may modify, extend or terminate offers in whole or in part at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. Offers may not be redeemed for cash and may not combined with certain other consumer incentives. ®Registered trademark of The Bank of Nova Scotia.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Thank You For Your Patronage. We look forward to serving you in 2018.

Sharon, Wendy, Leona, Holly and Shani

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HOLIDAY HOURS
We are closed Monday, Dec. 25, Tuesday, Dec. 26 and Monday, Jan. 1

How My Family Gets Ready For Christmas

by students from Stuart Baker Elementary School

1. My mom helps me put up the Christmas tree.
2. Cohen hangs up stockings above fireplace
3. My mom bakes cakes for dessert at Christmas
4. We invite our family to visit us on Christmas
5. Me and Cohen look for gifts for our parents.

Skylar

1. We decorate the Christmas tree
2. Wrap the presents
3. Put the presents under the Christmas tree
4. We make a wreath
5. I go to my grama's for Christmas

Jayden

1. My grandmother bakes pies at Christmas time
2. My dad and my mom buy the presents for my family
3. I put the Christmas lights on the tree
4. My dad puts the tree up in the house
5. My poppa puts the ornaments on the tree

Trey

1. We set up our Christmas tree
2. My dad puts up or Christmas lights in front of the house
3. We put our stocking on our couch
4. We put candy canes on our Christmas Tree
5. Mom and Dad put Christmas presents under the tree

Jaxen

1. My mom puts the Christmas lights up
2. I put up the decorations on the tree
3. We buy a turkey for our dinner
4. My mom goes Christmas shopping for gifts
5. I send Christmas cards to my uncles

Thomas

1. We will put up our Christmas tree on Saturday
2. We will chop down a tree in the forest. It will be a big pine tree
3. We will put ornaments on the tree
4. My Mom puts a wreath on the front door
5. My father puts up Christmas Lights on the house.

Jack

1. Me and my mom make wreaths
2. I set up decorations before Christmas
3. My mom sets up the Christmas tree then me and my mom puts up the balls on the tree
4. My dad puts up our Christmas lights
5. Me and my mom put lights on the Christmas tree

Alley

1. We will put wood in the fireplace
2. My mother will put the candy and stuff in the stocking
3. My father decorates the house
4. My mom makes the cookies for us too
5. My dad and me will put the lights on the tree
6. Me, my dad and Kaiya will get the Christmas tree

Noah

1. My Dad gets Christmas trees from my forest
2. My dad picks me up so I can put the star or the angel on the Christmas tree top
3. I help put the ornaments on the Christmas tree
4. My dad puts the Christmas lights on the roof
5. My mom makes cookies for Christmas
6. My mom puts the Christmas lights on the Christmas tree

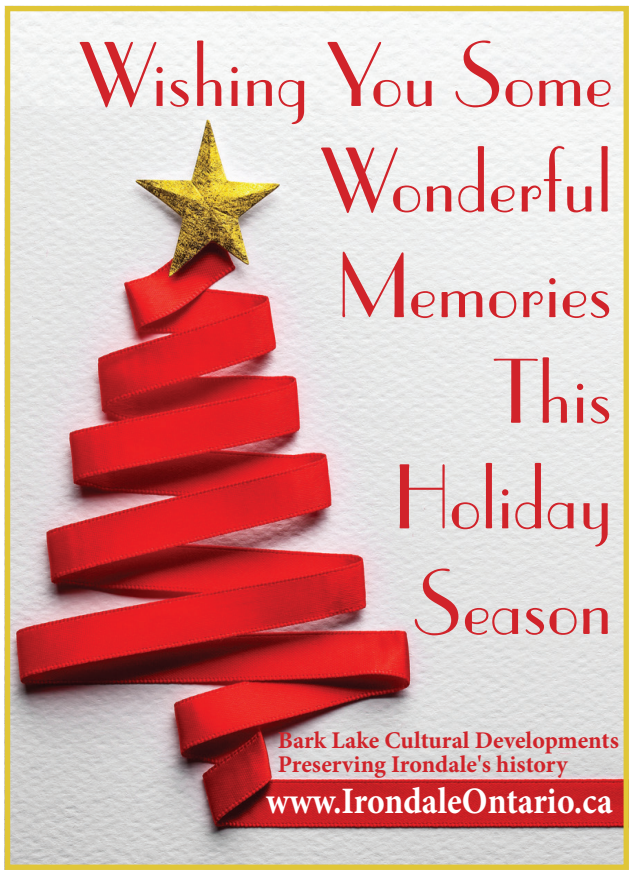
Azarra

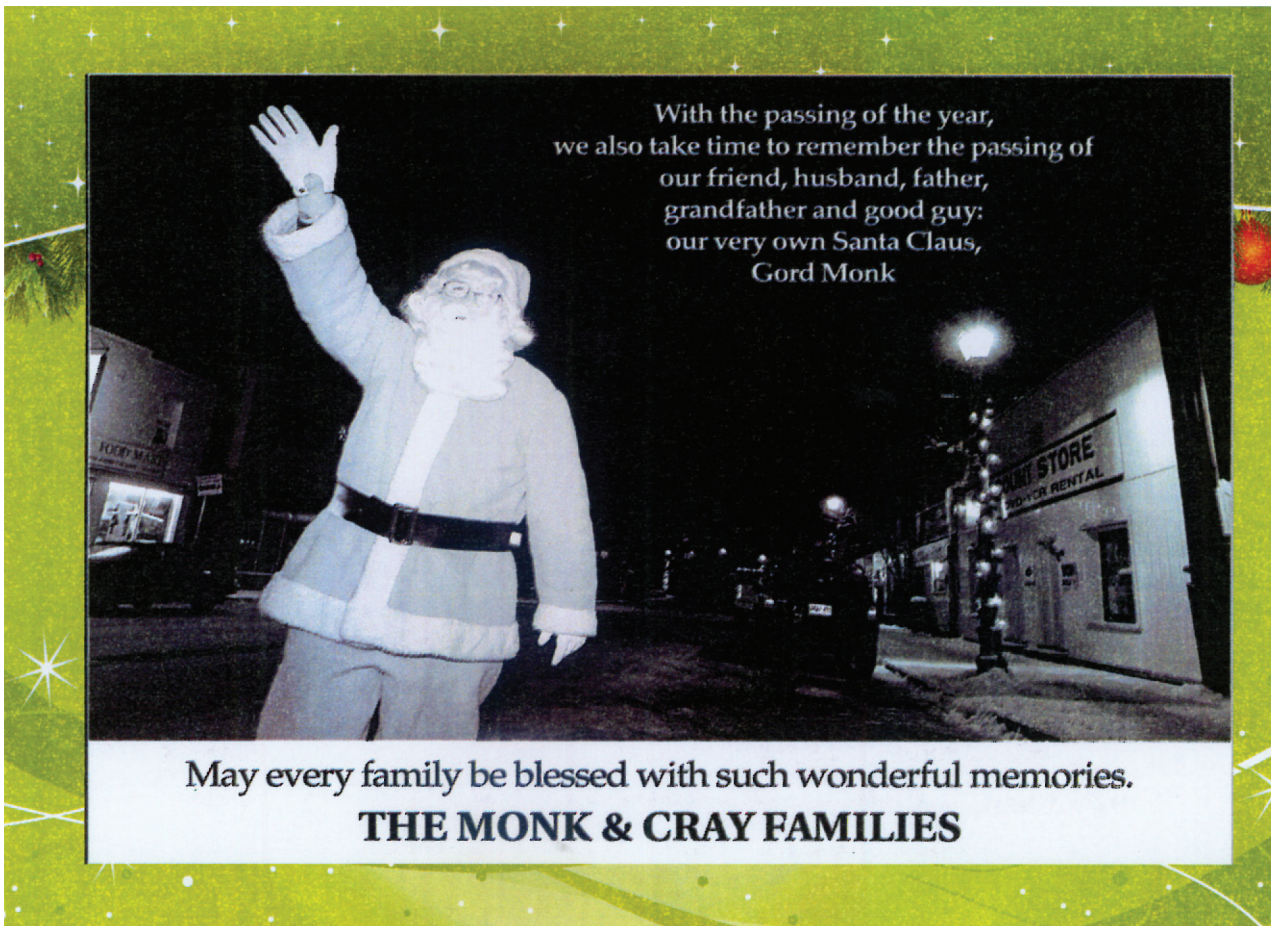
1. I put up Christmas lights
2. I put an angel up on the tree
3. Mum taped stockings to the table
4. I make sure I am nice so Santa Claus knows
5. My mom puts lights on the outside of my house

Dylan

1. We put up the Christmas tree
2. My dad puts the Christmas lights up on the roof
3. My mom gets the presents
4. I put candy canes on the tree
5. My mom bakes lots of Christmas cookies

Josh


Wishing You Some Wonderful Memories This Holiday Season
Bark Lake Cultural Developments
Preserving Irondale's history
www.IrondaleOntario.ca


With the passing of the year,
we also take time to remember the passing of
our friend, husband, father,
grandfather and good guy:
our very own Santa Claus,
Gord Monk
May every family be blessed with such wonderful memories.
THE MONK & CRAY FAMILIES

Archie Stouffer, Mrs. Randles 2A

Dear Santa,
did you take a bear to go last year? One thing you might not know about me is I won my hokey game. This Chrismas I will show kindness by shaering my gt. I would really like is a droen.

From, Landyn

Dear Santa,
How is Mrs. Claus? One thing you might not know about me is I Love writeing. This Christmas I will show kindness by helping a freind. One thing I would like for christmas is a ice cream plush.

From, Mo

Dear Santa,
How is our elf Archie? One thing you might not know about me is Olivia is my best friend. I will show kindness this Christmas by being nice to my brother and sister. I would like a cat for christmas.

Love, Sophia

Dear Santa,
Do you help make the toys? One thing you might not know about me is that I Love animals alot. This christmas I will show kinndness by huging people who need one. I would realy like a BarBy camper.

Love, Kaydence

Dear Santa,
How are you. One thing you mit not know about me is I like dog sitting. I will show kindness this Christmas by letting my brother go in front of me. I would like a 4 wheeler.

Love, Brayden

Dear Santa,
How many elves do you have santa? Onething you might not know about me is I have Jamaican in me. This Christmas I will show kindness by helping carson make a fort. I would really like a flying airplane.

Love, Aren

To Santa,
How are the elves doing? One thing you might not know about me is I what to be a elf. This Christmas I will show kindness by saying merry christmas to everybody. I would really like a for Realfriend.

Love, Kate

Dear Santa
How are your evs? You might not no that I lost a Tooth. I will show kindness by giving my sistr her presint. I would like some candy.

Love, Addy

To Santa,
How are you? You might not now that I just trnd 7. I will show kindness by helping my sister make a snow ball. May I have a molen cherole plane?

Love, Van

Dear Santa,
How do your reindeer fly? One thing you might not know about me is I have an aunt that lives far away. I will show kindness by being nice to my sisters. One thing I want is a toy car.

From, Leighton

Dear Santa,
How are the reindeer? One thing you might not know about me is I like my siblings. This christmas I will show kindness by saying Please and Thank You. I would really like a Plad Shirt.

Love, Mya Casey

Dear Santa,
How are you? One thing you might not know about me is I would like to be a elf! This Christmas I will show kindness by heping peolple. I would really like a I pod.

From, Myla

Dear Santa,
How is Miss Clus doing?
One thing you might not know about me is I Love art. This christmas I will show kindness by helping my mommy. I would really like my family to be togeter.

Love, Olivia

Dear Santa,
How are you and the reindeer doing? One thing you might not know about me is that I have 2 dog and 1 rabittt. This christmas I will show kindess by being quiet in line. I would really like a Gymnastics Bar.

Love, Mackenzie

Dear Santa,
How are you and Mrs Claus? One thing you might not know about me is my dad knocked my tooth out. This christmas I will be kindness by play with a friend. I want all the transformers the Last Knight toys.

From, Carson

Dear Santa,
one thing you might not know about me is I Love you. This christmas I will show kindness by letting a kid go donw the slide. I would really like a little 4 wheeler.

From, Jacob

Dear Santa,
How many cookies do you eat? One thing you might not know about me is I like spiderman. I will show kindness by saying Thank You. I would like an Xbox.

From, Marshall

To Santa,
How many reindeer do you have? This Christmas I will show kindness by playig with my brother Rally.
I like that every body gets toys this Christmas.

From, Henry

Sending warm wishes to you and your family during this
Christmas Season
May your home be blessed with
love and happiness
CAYGEON DENTURE CLINIC
Fernando Paiz, Denturist
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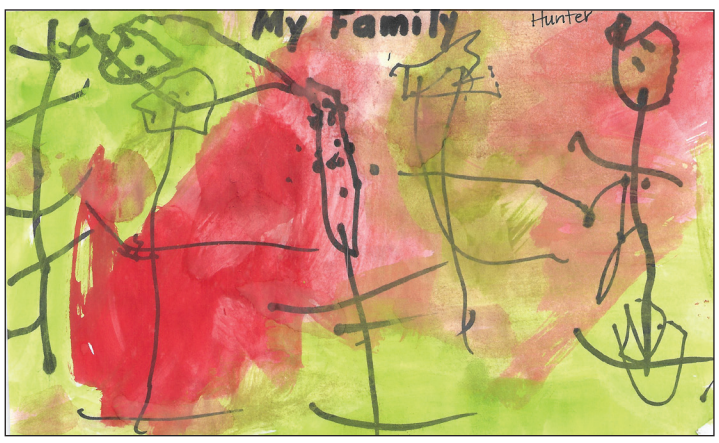
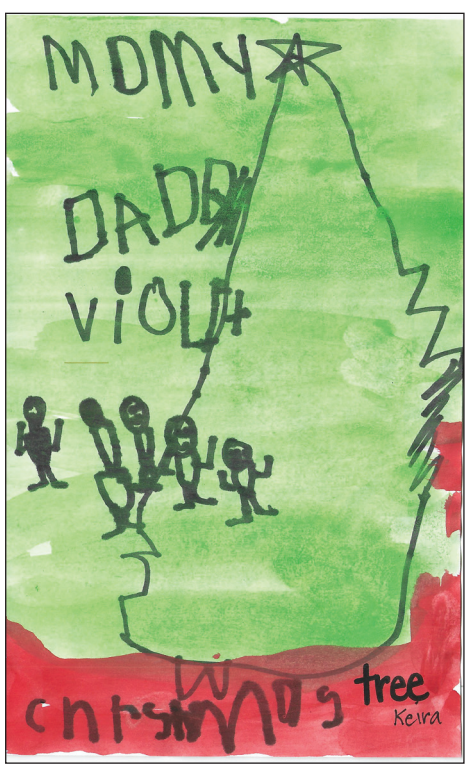
Family Traditions

From the students in Mrs. Little and Ms. Hewitt's KA class at Archie Stouffer Elementary School.





HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM
SHORELINES SLOTS | KAWARTHA DOWNS

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS | 4PM - 9PM

Half Rack of Ribs Dinner

$6.99*

*With Free Club Membership.
$11.99 for Non-Members.

Your HOLIDAY WISHLIST

DRAWS EVERY THURSDAY
4PM / 6PM / 8PM

TOP CASH PRIZE OF $2,500
54 CASH PRIZES & GIFT PRIZES
BIG SCREEN TVS | SNOWBLOWERS
CAMERAS & MUCH MUCH MORE!
*Prizes may be different than advertised.

Must be in attendance to win. Must be a rewards club member. No purchase necessary. Visit Guest Services for rules & regulations.

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- 24-HR Emergency Burner Service for Our Customers
- We Deliver Home Heating Oil and Propane
- 24-Hour Gasoline & Diesel Pump (Cardlock System)
- Lubricants
- Storage Units
- Propane Tanks

2018 SILVERADO 1500 DOUBLE CAB MIDNIGHT EDITION

0%* PURCHASE FINANCING FOR **60** MONTHS + **$4,000** TOTAL VALUE

(INCLUDES $1,000 GM CARD APPLICATION BONUS)

FEATURES:

- ✓ AVAILABLE APPLE CARPLAY™[1] AND ANDROID AUTO™[2] CAPABILITY AND ONSTAR[3] 4G LTE WITH BUILT-IN WI-FI® HOTSPOT (3GB/3 MONTH TRIAL)
- ✓ NHTSA OVERALL VEHICLE 5-STAR SAFETY SCORE[4]
- ✓ AVAILABLE CLASS-EXCLUSIVE AUTOMATIC LOCKING REAR DIFFERENTIAL

THE 2018 SILVERADO 1500 DOUBLE CAB WT BLACK OUT EDITION MODEL SHOWN

THE 2018 SILVERADO 1500 DOUBLE CAB CUSTOM EDITION 4X4

$195* BI-WEEKLY LEASE @ **2.9%** APR FOR **48** MONTHS OFFER INCLUDES **$4,500** TOTAL VALUE

WITH $3,350 DOWN PAYMENT.
(INCLUDES $1,000 GM CARD APPLICATION BONUS)

FEATURES:

- ✓ AVAILABLE APPLE CARPLAY™[1] AND ANDROID AUTO™[2] CAPABILITY AND ONSTAR[3] 4G LTE WITH BUILT-IN WI-FI® HOTSPOT (3GB/3 MONTH TRIAL)
- ✓ NHTSA OVERALL VEHICLE 5-STAR SAFETY SCORE[4]
- ✓ CLASS-EXCLUSIVE AUTOMATIC LOCKING REAR DIFFERENTIAL

SILVERADO 1500 DOUBLE CAB CUSTOM EDITION 4X4 MODEL SHOWN

THE 2017 COLORADO LT CREW CAB

0%* PURCHASE FINANCING FOR **60** MONTHS + **$3,000** TOTAL VALUE

FEATURES:

- ✓ BEST-IN-CLASS AVAILABLE HORSEPOWER[7,8]
- ✓ BEST-IN-CLASS AVAILABLE TOWING[9,10]
- ✓ AVAILABLE APPLE CARPLAY™[1] AND ANDROID AUTO™[2] CAPABILITY AND ONSTAR[3] 4G LTE WITH BUILT-IN WI-FI® HOTSPOT

COLORADO LT CREW CAB MODEL SHOWN

ALL ELIGIBLE MODELS COME WITH
CHEVROLET COMPLETE CARE: 2 YEARS/40,000 KM COMPLIMENTARY OIL CHANGES** **5** YEARS/160,000 KM POWERTRAIN WARRANTY▲ **5** YEARS/160,000 KM ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE▲

PROUD PARTNER
PARTICIPACTION 150 PLAY LIST
CANADA 150

*For the latest information, visit us at chevrolet.ca, drop by your local Chevrolet Dealer or call us at 1-800-GM-DRIVE. For the latest information, visit us at chevrolet.ca, drop by your local Chevrolet Dealer or call us at 1-800-GM-DRIVE. *<Chevrolet Holiday Bonus> total value valid toward the retail purchase or lease of one eligible new 2017 or 2018 model year <Chevrolet> delivered in Canada between December 1 – January 2, 2018. Total Value consists of $500 manufacturer-to-dealer Holiday Bonus (tax exclusive) delivery credit and manufacturer-to-consumer GM Card Application Bonus (offer applies to individuals who apply for a Scotiabank® GM® Visa* Card [GM Card] or current GM Card cardholders) (tax inclusive). GM Card Application Bonus credit value depends on model purchased: $500 GM Card Bonus on new 2017 Sonic, Cruze, Malibu (excl L), Camaro, Volt, Trax, 2018 Equinox; $750 GM Card Bonus on new 2017 Equinox, 2017 & 2018 Impala, Corvette, Colorado (excl 2SA), Traverse, City, Express; $1000 GM Card Bonus on new 2017 & 2018 Tahoe, Suburban, Silverado LD & HD. As part of the transaction, dealer may request documentation and contact General Motors of Canada Company (GM Canada) to verify eligibility. $500 Holiday Bonus is applied against eligible 2017 & 2018 MY vehicles purchased during the program period. 2017 & 2018MY vehicles not eligible for this offer are: exclusions outlined under GM Card Bonuses above, Spark, BOLT EV. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Certain limitations or conditions apply. Void where prohibited. See your GM Canada dealer for details. GM Canada reserves the right to amend or terminate offers for any reason in whole or in part at any time without prior notice. Void where prohibited. See dealer for details. (0/60+$4,000 Total Value Finance Offer) Eligible 2017 Silverado Double Cab WT: Offer available to qualified retail customers in Canada for vehicles financed and from between December 1, 2017 to January 2, 2018. Financing provided, on approved credit, by TD Auto Finance Services, Scotiabank® or RBC Royal Bank. Participating lenders are subject to change. Rates from other lenders will vary. Representative finance example based on a new 2017 Silverado Double Cab WT. Suggested retail price is $46,440 including $1,700 freight and PDI, $100 air conditioning charge (where applicable). $0 down payment or equivalent trade-in required. $46,440 financed at 0% nominal rate equals $774 per month for 60 months. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $46,440. Taxes, PPSA, license, insurance, registration and applicable fees, levies, duties and, except in Quebec, dealer fees (all of which may vary by region and dealer) are extra. Dealers are free to set individual prices. Limited time financing offer which may not be combined with certain other offers. GM Canada may modify, extend or terminate offers in whole or in part at any time without notice Conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. ®Registered trademark of The Bank of Nova Scotia. RBC and Royal Bank are registered trademarks of Royal Bank of Canada. $4,000 Total Value. Limited time offer available to qualified retail customers in Canada. $4,000 Total Value is a combined total credit for finance purchases on select 2017 trucks; includes: $2,000 manufacturer to dealer cash credit (tax exclusive), $500 manufacturer-to-dealer Holiday Bonus (tax exclusive), $1,000 GM card application bonus (this offer applies to individuals who have applied for the Scotiabank® GM® Visa* Card [GM card] and to current Scotiabank® GM® Visa* Cardholders) (taxes included). $500 manufacturer-to-dealer Finance Cash (tax exclusive) towards the finance of an eligible new 2017 Silverado Double Cab at participating dealers. 2018 Silverado Double Cab Custom Edition Lease: Lease based on a purchase price of $45,137 for a 2018 Silverado Double Cab Custom Edition, includes $2,000 CDA, $1,000 Lease Cash, $500 Holiday Bonus and $1,000 GM Card Application Bonus (this offer applies to individuals who have applied for the Scotiabank® GM® Visa* Card [GM card] and to current Scotiabank® GM® Visa* Cardholders) (tax inclusive). Bi-weekly payment is $199 for 48 months at 2.9% lease rate on approved credit to qualified retail customers by GM Financial. Annual kilometer limit of 20,000 km, $0.16 per excess kilometer. $3,350 down payment required. Payment may vary depending on down payment trade. Total obligation is $23,621. Taxes, license, insurance, registration and applicable fees, levies, duties and, except in Quebec, dealer fees (all of which may vary by dealer and region) are extra. Option to purchase at lease end is $37,402. (0/60+$3,000 Total Value Finance Offer) Eligible 2017 Colorado: Offer available to qualified retail customers in Canada for vehicles financed and from between December 1, 2017 to January 2, 2018. Financing provided, on approved credit, by TD Auto Finance Services, Scotiabank® or RBC Royal Bank. Participating lenders are subject to change. Rates from other lenders will vary. Representative finance example based on a new 2017 Colorado. Suggested retail price is $32,760 including $1,700 freight and PDI, $100 air conditioning charge (where applicable). $0 down payment or equivalent trade-in required. $32,760 financed at 0% nominal rate equals $546.00 per month for 84 months. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $32,760. Taxes, PPSA, license, insurance, registration and applicable fees, levies, duties and, except in Quebec, dealer fees (all of which may vary by region and dealer) are extra. Dealers are free to set individual prices. Limited time financing offer which may not be combined with certain other offers. GM Canada may modify, extend or terminate offers in whole or in part at any time without notice Conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. ®Registered trademark of The Bank of Nova Scotia. RBC and Royal Bank are registered trademarks of Royal Bank of Canada. $3,000 Total Value. Limited time offer available to qualified retail customers in Canada. $3,000 Total Value is a combined total credit for finance purchases on select 2017 Colorados; includes: $750 manufacturer to dealer cash credit (tax exclusive), $500 manufacturer-to-dealer Holiday Bonus (tax exclusive), $750 GM card application bonus (this offer applies to individuals who have applied for the Scotiabank® GM® Visa* Card [GM card] and to current Scotiabank® GM® Visa* Cardholders) (taxes included). $1,000 manufacturer-to-dealer Finance Cash (tax exclusive) towards the finance of an eligible new towards the finance of an eligible new 2017 Colorados at participating dealers. 1 Vehicle user interface is a product of Apple and its terms and privacy statements apply. Requires compatible iPhone and data plan rates apply. 2 Vehicle user interface is a product of Google and their terms and privacy statements apply. Requires compatible smartphone and data plan rates apply. 3 Visit onstar.ca for coverage maps, details and system limitations. Services and capabilities vary by model and conditions as well as geographical and technical restrictions. Terms and conditions apply. OnStar acts as a link to existing emergency service providers. Not all vehicles may transmit all crash data. After the trial period, an active OnStar service plan is required. OnStar 4G LTE: Services and connectivity vary by model and conditions as well as geographical and technical restrictions. Requires active OnStar service and data plan. Data plans provided by AT&T or its local service provider. Accessory Power must be active to use the Wi-Fi hotspot. 4 U.S. Government 5-Star Safety Ratings are part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.SaferCar.gov). 7 Requires available 3.6L V6 engine. 8 Based on WardsAuto.com 2016 Small Pickup segment and latest competitive information available at time of printing. Excludes other GM models. 9 Requires available 3.6L V6 or 2.8L Duramax Turbo-Diesel engine. 10 Before you buy a vehicle or use it for trailering, carefully review the Trailering section of the Owner's Manual. The weight of passengers, cargo and options or accessories may reduce the amount you can tow. **The 2-Year Scheduled Lube-Oil-Filter Maintenance Program provides eligible customers in Canada, who have purchased or leased a new eligible 2016 or 2017 MY Chevrolet (excluding Spark EV), with an ACDelco® oil and filter change, in accordance with the oil life monitoring system and the Owner's Manual, for 2 years or 48,000 km, whichever occurs first, with a limit of four (4) Lube-Oil-Filter services in total, performed at participating GM dealers. Fluid top offs, inspections, tire rotations, wheel alignments and balancing, etc. are not covered. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives available on GM vehicles. General Motors of Canada Company reserves the right to amend or terminate this offer, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. Additional conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. ▲Whichever comes first. See dealer for details. 1 Vehicle user interface is a product of Apple and its terms and privacy statements apply. Requires compatible iPhone and data plan rates apply. 2 Vehicle user interface is a product of Google and their terms and privacy statements apply. Requires compatible smartphone and data plan rates apply. 3 Visit onstar.ca for coverage maps, details and system limitations. Services and capabilities vary by model and conditions as well as geographical and technical restrictions. Terms and conditions apply. OnStar acts as a link to existing emergency service providers. Not all vehicles may transmit all crash data. After the trial period, an active OnStar service plan is required. OnStar 4G LTE: Services and connectivity vary by model and conditions as well as geographical and technical restrictions. Requires active OnStar service and data plan. Data plans provided by AT&T or its local service provider. Accessory Power must be active to use the Wi-Fi hotspot. 4 U.S. Government 5-Star Safety Ratings are part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.SaferCar.gov). 7 Requires available 3.6L V6 engine. 8 Based on WardsAuto.com 2016 Small Pickup segment and latest competitive information available at time of printing. Excludes other GM models. 9 Requires available 3.6L V6 or 2.8L Duramax Turbo-Diesel engine. 10 Before you buy a vehicle or use it for trailering, carefully review the Trailering section of the Owner's Manual. 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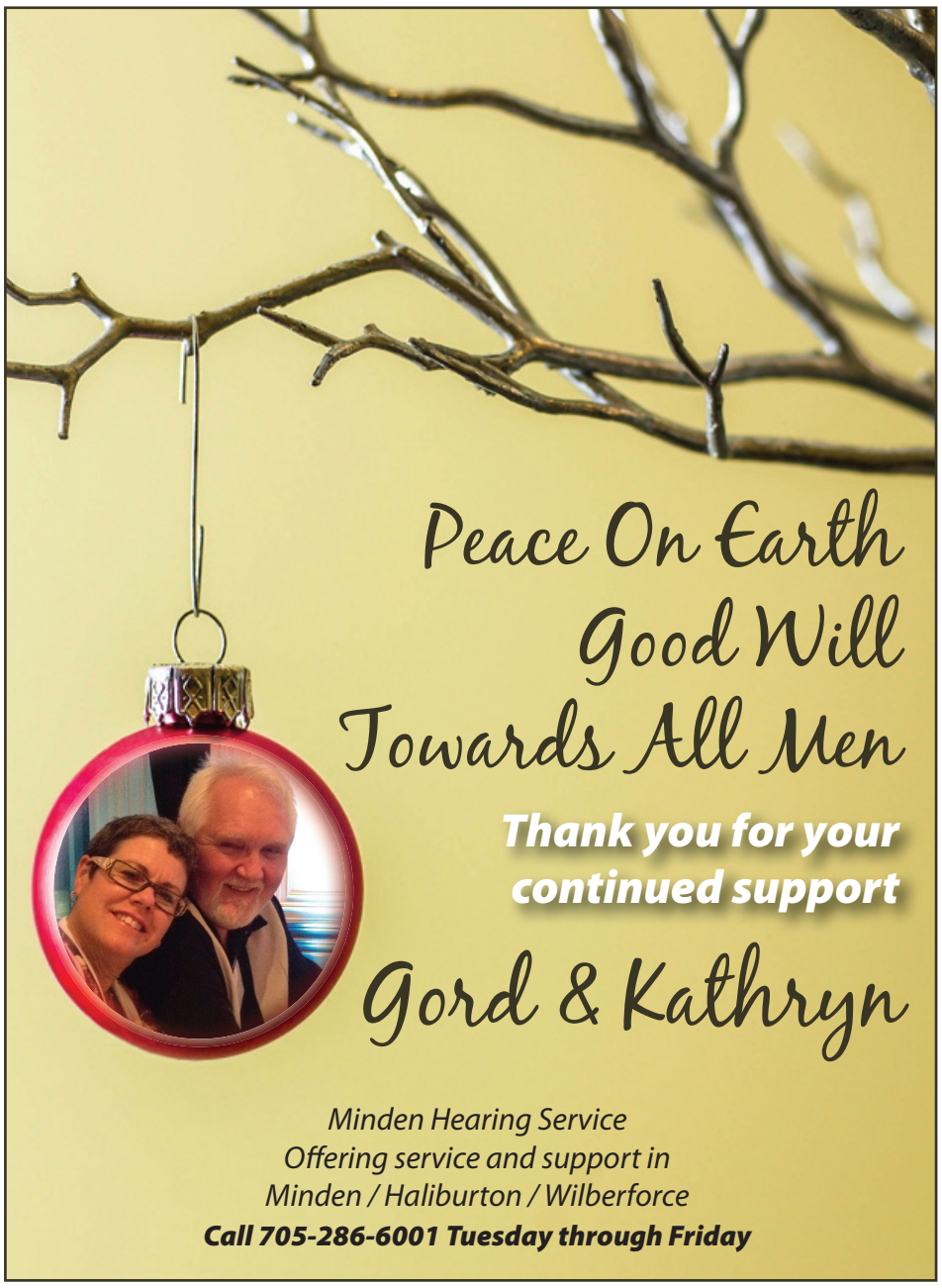

1968-2018 50TH HALIBURTON TIMBER MART

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

FROM ALL OF US AT HALIBURTON TIMBER MART

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Arlene Scheffee
Barry Holman
Ben Germuska
Bernie Sheehey
Bill Dovell
Bill Tripp
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‘But Santa, let me explain!’ (Villains’ letters to Santa)

Dear Santa,
Hi Santa. I am the Grinch. You think that I was trying stop Christmas, but I wasn’t. Santa, I was just trying to help the kids open the presents. Santa, one of the presents was too hard to open that the kid couldn’t open it, so I opened it for him. I hope you will believe me. I want awesome socks for Christmas.
Sincerely,
The Grinch
by: Ayden Gardiner

Dear Santa,
Hi it’s me, Slappy. I have heard that people have been saying I was rude to you.
Let me explain, I was not being rude, I was just trying to be funny.
So I’m really sorry and if you could forgive me, I would love a new purple teddy bear, a girlfriend and a phone.
Your friend,
Slappy
by: Brea Towegijick

Dear Santa,
Let me introduce myself, I am Bowser from Mario. I didn’t mean to steal the Princess Peach. My Minions made me mad so I took her.
Let me explain. They were making fun of me because I was the biggest dino and because of how I talked. So I just took her.
I hope you will forgive me. If you can, could you bring me a new Minion?
Sincerely,
Bowser
by: Easton Pelow

Dear Santa,
Hello Santa. I am the Joker. I wasn’t really trying to defeat Batman. I was just trying to make a friend. Oh and can I have a partner for Christmas?
love,
Joker
by: Erynn Card

Dear Santa,
Its me Wolfgang and I know that some people thought I was trying to get everyone under my control, but I wasn’t. I know that I have been using my bone to get everyone under my control, but it was a misunderstanding. It is the Golden Queen’s fault because she has been making me do all this stuff. The other doomraiders are also doing bad stuff because the Golden Queen is making us do this bad stuff.
For Christmas, can I have a new bone?
From,
Wolfgang
by: Kevin Jones

Dear Santa,
It’s me Plankton. I know you think I was trying to steal the secret formula for the Krabby Patty but I wasn’t. It was all a misunderstanding. It’s just because I was hungry and my chum went stale and I just wanted food. So that is the real story. Can I have a secret formula and chum for Christmas?
From,
Plankton
by: Sarah Teljeur

Hello santa,
I know people say I kidnapped batman. I will tell you what really happened. I was walking down the street and then I got hypnotized and I couldn’t control my body. Then I kidnapped batman. I want a new gang and a batarang for Christmas.

Sincerely,
The penguin
By: Bryce Hubbert

Dear Santa,
Hi it’s Gru. Listen, all that stuff you think I did, like trying to steal the crystal and the moon, was so fake it’s funny.
My brother Dru was trying to steal the giant crystal for his shrink ray to shrink the moon. He dressed up as me to sneak in.
For Christmas, I want a cloak that can turn me invisible.
Sincerely,
Gru
By: Domenic Harding

Hi Santa,
It’s me Darth Vader. People say that they think I’m evil but it’s not really true. I didn’t really mean to hit people with my glow stick, but it’s because I was scared of the dark. The people with blue glow sticks tried to hurt me. I was just using my red glow stick to see in the dark and I accidentally hit them. For Christmas, I would like more black Stormtroopers and white Stormtroopers.
From ,
Darth Vader
By: Drey Cook

Dear Santa,
It’s me Maleficent. I am known for being mean to Aurora but I was just giving Aurora a present when I put spell on her. I was trying to put a nice spell on Aurora, but I got mad by accident. I put a mean spell on Aurora because of a mosquito. Yes people say that I put a spell on Aurora, but I got very, very mad at the mosquito so it was by accident. The mosquito was flying around me and annoying me. It was Aurora’s birthday. I had to give her a birthday present. By the way, her father, the king, stole my wings and that’s also why I was mad. I was just wondering if I could I maybe have my wings back for Christmas? Thank you Santa.

Sincerely,
Maleficent
By: Emma Bush

Dear Santa,
It’s me Plankton. You probably remember me from Spongebob. I know people in Bikini Bottom tell you that I

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Closing Christmas Eve until March 1st
For a Little Hibernation

by Ms. Patterson's Grade 2/3 Class

tried to run Mr. Krabs out of business. Let me explain. You see, why I tried to take the secret krabby patty formula was because I just wanted something yummy to eat. Oh and if you can, for Christmas, I would like the secret patty formula please!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Sincerely,
Plankton!!!!!!!!!
By: Jayla Bird

Dear Santa,
It's me the Grinch. I know you think that I stole Christmas, but I did not. This is what really happened. The Who's were sleeping and I was sleeping too. Then I was sleep-walking. I stole the presents but then I gave the presents back. It was a mistake Santa. For Christmas, I want a stuffy.
From,
Grinch
By: Joshlynn Ruff

Dear Santa,
It's me Slappy. I know you think I was haunting people, but I wasn't. I was going to tell the people where the book is so they can live forever. For Christmas, I want a human to play with.
Sincerely,
Slappy
By: Kay Loney

Dear santa,
Hi, my name is King Alien. I am famous for capturing people and healing them. People think we are capturing them and experimenting on them. But that is not true. For Christmas, I would like an alien blaster. I want this because I want to turn King Gong into ashes. Thank you.
Sincerely,
king alien
by: Lenox Bride-Morris

Dear Santa,
Hi! It's the old lady from Hansel and Gretel. I know you think I was trying to eat the kids, but I was actually trying to cook them dinner. I was just trying to take care of them. For Christmas, I would like two kids and the stuff to take care of them. I would like two boys please.
From,
The old lady from Hansel and Gretel
By: Payton McRae

Dear Santa,
Hi I'm the Grinch. I know that you think I stole Christmas but I can explain everything. So you see, I was just trying to see what the Who's wanted for Christmas so I could get them something for Christmas. I just wanted to have Christmas with my family. Sorry for making it look like I was trying to steal Christmas. Can I please have ham and a nice roast beast for Christmas?
Sincerely,
the Grinch
by: Kayla Sutton

Dear Santa,
Hi, how are you? It's me Ursella from the sea.What have you and the elves been doing? I know that people tell you that I stole Ariel's voice but what actually happened was that my spell went out of my control when I was trying to give her legs like she asked. Then all the people accused me. I know you might put me on the naughty list but you shouldn't accuse someone if you don't know for sure that they actually did it, right? If you have a chance to tell me if I'm on the naughty list, please tell me. Oh ya, if I›m on the nice list then I would like some smarter pets for Christmas, please and thank you.
Sincerely,
Ursella
By: Taya Tomlinson

Dear Santa,
Hi Santa it`s Plankton. You probably remember me. I know you might think I'm stealing Mr.Krab's formula for krabby patties but I was actually trying to ask how to make it. I was just so hungry. The Krusty Krab was just the closest restaurant to the Chum Bucket. When I went in, I ordered two krabby patties. I took a bite. It was amazing! I had to have more!
For Christmas, I would like the krabby pattie formula.
Sincerely,
Plankton
By: Sophie Graham

Hi Santa,
It's the wicked witch of the west. I know you think I locked Dorothy in a room, but I did not. I was just playing with Dorothy. We were playing Hide and Go Seek. Please believe me. What I want for Christmas is a pair of ruby slippers please.
Love,
The Wicked witch of the west
by: Mackenzie Dougherty

Dear Santa,
Hi I am the grinch. I know you think I am bad but I am not. All the people tell you that I am bad because I ruined Christmas. I just wanted to join Santa and the elves, but the elves would not let me. I just wanted to make some toys for the little kids so kids can have lots of fun and play with all of their toys. I would like a toy elf and a toy santa for Christmas.
Sincerely,
The Grinch
By: Taylor Mulock

Christmas artwork by students at Stuart Baker Elementary School

Wishing our Loyal Customers, Friends and Family a Magical Holiday Season.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Derek, Sharon, Nick and Sam Rowden

Staff and Families of D&K Masonry and Touch of Class Day Spa

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Full Service Day Spa • Clothing • Intimates
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Letters to Mrs. Claus and Elvin the Elf

from students at Archie Stouffer Elementary School

Dear Mrs. Clause and Elvin the Elf,

Here's why you need my suit.

First things first. Santa's pom pom on his hat can be pulled off and turns into a big fluffy cushion in case he crashes his sleigh.

Secondly, Santa's styling bracelet has a speaker if Santa wants to jam out.

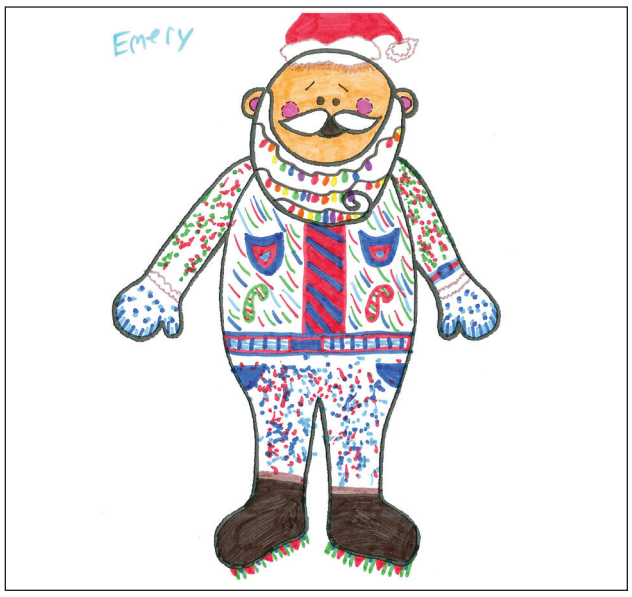
And lots of pockets so that he can save the awesome cookies everyone makes.

Finally some super-duper grip shoes for walking on the roof and chimney and they're also styling.

Anyway, thanks for this cool opportunity.

Talk to you later,

Emery Bagshaw, 5A



Dear Mrs. Claus and Elvin the Elf,

You need to buy my suit because it a limited edition suit and it also has a limited edition jet pack because he might fall of his sled so he can get back on it and lead the reindeer to safety names Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, and Blitzen.

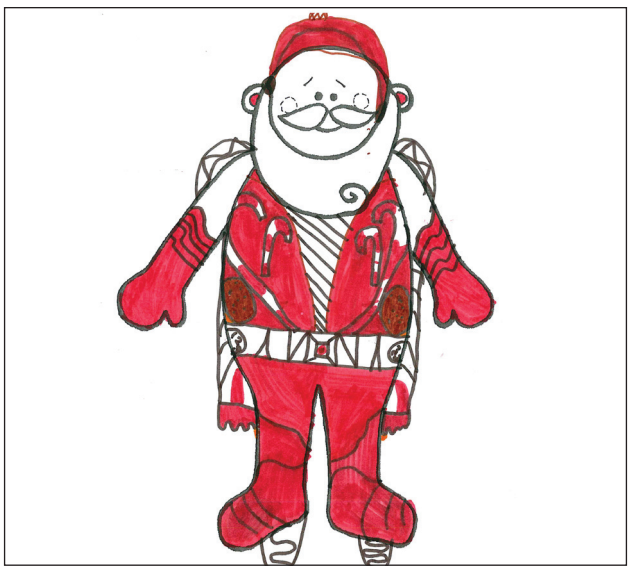
Linking to it, we have a cool awesome delicious candy can holder because Santa can not eat all those candy canes so he also can save some and it also keeps them cold so they do not mix into the cookie dispenser.

Oh yeah, there is a cookie dispenser just because Santa might be hungry on a mission.

And the best part is they have candy cane skis on the suit in case Santa falls down the roof.

Sincerely,

Haiden Bird, 5A



Dear Mrs. Claus and Elvin the Elf,

You will like the suit because it is so awesome that you will have to take it for Santa and this is why you will take it.

So Santa's boots have suction cups and you will know that when he goes on metal rooftops that he will not fall off.

The boots have black on it so no coal will get on it. The suit on the top half is black and red and this is the special part. The black part is coal proof and the whole suit is too.

The green arms are for camouflage for the bush.

The cookies are for eating when he gets hungry and there are big cookies and little cookies so he can have big and little cookies.

Oh, and I almost forgot. His beard is gold and it can shoot out gold candy.

The storm hat is because he can cheer us on and all of the other teams that are in midget/bantam.

Oh and make sure he does not get in to that pop or he could go for years and let him have some hot chocolate because his lips are a bit sore sometimes.

So that is why you are going to take my suit.

Yours truly,

Aaron Neave, 5A

Dear Mrs. Clause and Elvin the Elf,

You should chose my Santa suit and here are five reasons to back it up.

One of my features is that Santa's suit is really comfy and if he falls it won't hurt as much.

The second feature is that the suit comes with a really cool backwards baseball cap so Sant can keep in style.

The suit also comes with pockets that can hold all his cookies. Doesn't he get millions a year. It also holds all of his presents.

Fourth the suit comes with extra comfy boots with spikes on the bottom so Santa doesn't slip and fall off the roof and hurt himself.

The suit also is fire proof so when someone leaves the fire place on Santa won't get burned.

If you chose my Santa suit you won't regret it.

Wyatt Raposo, 5A

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Thank you for your business & referrals

Merry Christmas!
& Happy New Year!

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& Happy New Year

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Christmas Stories by Mrs. Coneybeare's 3A

A Monkey's Christmas

"Hmmmmmm"!Monkey and I yawned and stretched. We crawled into bed and snuggled up together. Monkey is my stuffed animal. We were excited about Christmas.

Bang bang bang came from my roof. Me and monkey got up out of bed and tiptoed downstairs to investigate what was on the roof.

We saw Santa on the roof. I dropped Monkey and the reindeer got spooked by my monkey. They ran away. Santa looked right at me he said oh dear we have to get my reindeer back!

We made a trail of carrots and the reindeer smelled them and followed the trail back to my house. Santa was so happy to see his reindeer. Before he flew off to deliver presents he gave me what I wanted for Christmas.

For so long I have wanted a puppy. My puppy was brown and fuzzy and he was chasing my monkey! Santa shouted from his sleigh Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night.

By Kaylee

No Presents for Christmas

My feet were shaking. They wanted to run downstairs to the Christmas tree. With a hop and a yawn I ran down stairs. Finally... it was Christmas! It was Christmas!

I looked under the Christmas tree and there were no presents? "Huh," I thought to myself in my head.

My heart missed a beat but I still had fun. I still sang Christmas songs around the Christmas tree and had a feast. It smelled glorious.

I went to get a popsicle in the freezer and I found a letter in the freezer instead.

I asked my mom, "Why it is shaped like a snowflake? Where do you get these neat cards?" My mom looked confused and said, "I have no idea, Christina."

The letter said, This year please leave your tree set up in the livingroom because the reindeer are coming to town.

On New Year's Eve there were presents under the Christmas tree. I saw a beam of red out of my window and it was Rudolf the reindeer dancing through the clouds.

He waved to me as he floated across my room window and yelled, "Merry Christmas and Santa is sick this year."

by Christina

The Missing Sleigh & Reindeer

Santa Claus' sleigh is gone and his reindeer have taken off. The elves are trying to find his sleigh along with the reindeer. The elves look in the garage. The elves look beside the toy workshop. The elves look in Cuba. The elves got on the magic train in Cuba and there standing right in front of them were the eight reindeer and the sleigh. The elves loaded up the reindeer onto the magic train and the train took to the sky. It only took 7 minutes to get back to the North Pole. HO HO HO yelled Santa Claus. Christmas is saved.

The End

By Jayden

Where is Santa's Sack?

"HO HO HO" was coming from outside my bedroom window. It was the night before Christmas I woke up and looked out my window to see Santa. But before Santa could get to my house I heard Talonflame the Pokemon. Talonflame was using an attack called "Brave Bird". It made Santa fly out of the sky. I rushed out to ask Santa if he was alright. Santa dropped his sack in the ditch so I reached into the ditch to snatched the sack. The sack was soaked and dirty. I raced into the house and grabbed my Super Powered Hair Dryer and in 3 minutes flat I had the sack "spick & span". Santa yelled THANK YOU. As he jumped into his sleigh he grabbed a shiny red present. He chucked it to me. I opened it and it was a pokeball with Talonflame inside. I was proud. I yelled up to Santa, "Can I help deliver presents? Santa said "yes".

The End

By Micah

Santa Lost His Magic

My body was wiggly and shaking cause I was so excited about Christmas. I smelled turkey roasting in the oven. It was Christmas E ve and I was eating dinner with my family. After that we went to bed and I heard coughing on the roof of our house so I went to the attic and climbed the ladder to the roof. I saw Santa coughing so I gave him medicine. I raced downstairs and grabbed cough syrup and a spoon. I carefully poured medicine into the spoon and popped into Santa's mouth. I saved Christmas and felt very proud.

The End

By Connor

Where is Prancer?

My family doesn't know where Prancer is. Usually when my family sets up our Christmas tree Prancer comes to our house but this year she didn't come. Prancer is our Elf on the Shelf.

I think Prancer is at my old house. I will build a spaceship out of Lego and fly to my old house to find Prancer.

Yah, Prancer is here!

I grabbed Prancer and took her to my new house. My sister Chanelle said Thank You for helping Prancer get back home.

The End

By Mason

Elyse (and Dad) Save Christmas

I woke up excited and I jumped off my bed with joy. Finally Christmas had arrived. I scooted to my Christmas tree. Under my tree was nothing...nothing... nothing! I was scared so I went to my computer to track Santa.

I woke up dad and we took our big red truck into a horrible windstorm. We spotted Santa. There was a tree on Santa's sled.

Dad and I warmed up our muscles. With a little help from sad Santa we lifted the tree off the sled. Santa grabbed his sack and was off. We saved Christmas.

I got a big present. It was weights so I could build up my muscles for next year.

By ELYSE

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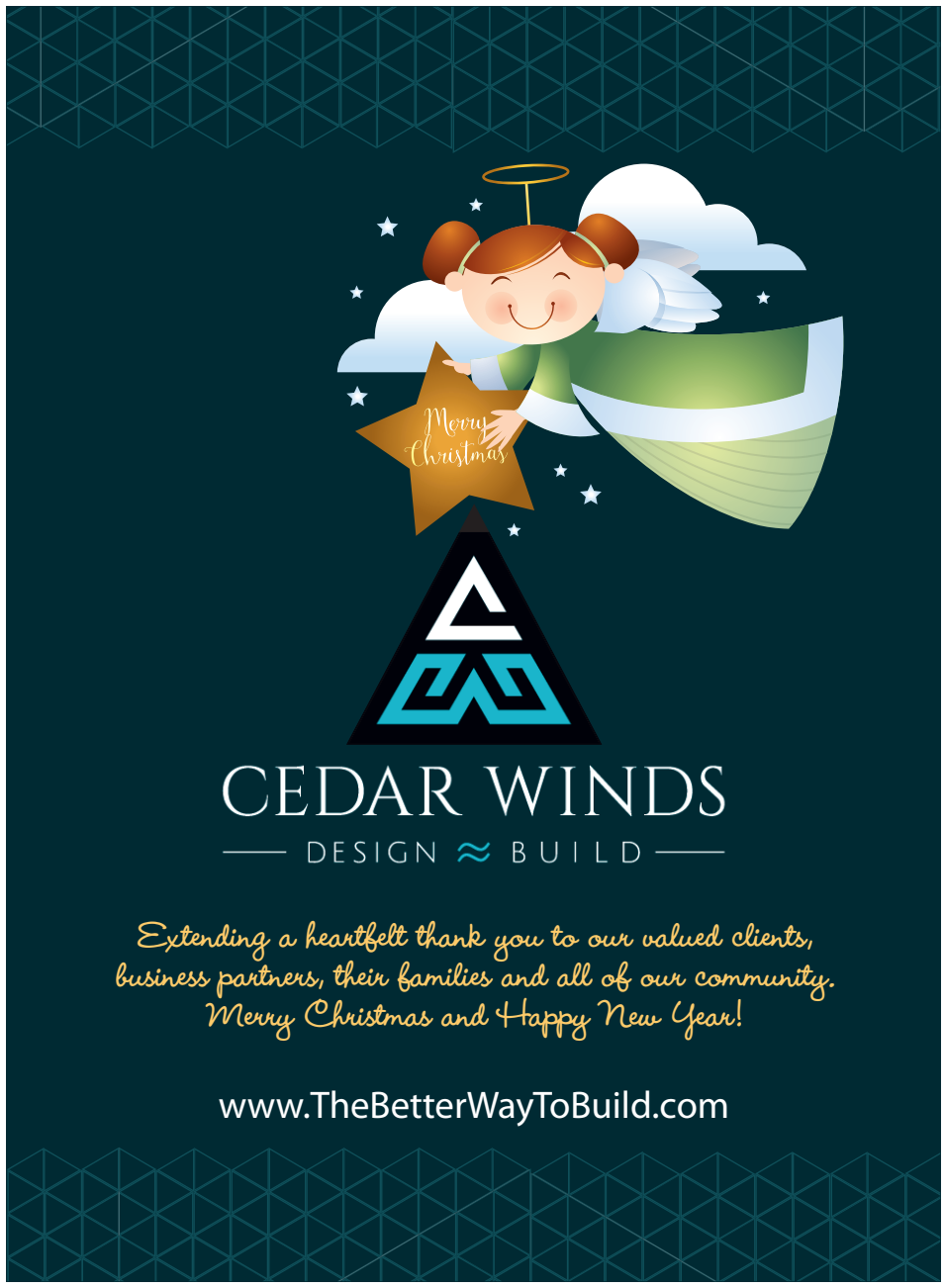
*Subject to availability, peak travel time, and black outs.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Extending a heartfelt thank you to our valued clients,
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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
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The Christmas Miracle

BAM CRASH! Thunder hit the ground, it was definitely a stormy Christmas Eve. I shivered up the stairs and getting into my cozy bed I drifted off to sleep.

And then it happened…

I woke up to the sound of a CRASH! I went outside to see what it was. I saw a big red sleigh with weird marks on it. Santa came climbing out of the sleigh. Me and my brother asked Santa what happened. He said that he had hit the hydro pole.

He started falling down and his reindeer ran away. "Santa we can help you! We have supplies in the garage that you can use to fix your sleigh," me and my brother said excitedly.

We ran into the garage and we grabbed everything we could hold and ran back out to fix the sleigh. While we were fixing the sleigh Santa told us that his reindeer ran away. We sighed, "Uh Oh." We fixed the sleigh and went to find the reindeer.

We made a trail of candy cane. The reindeer came and licked the candy canes. They kicked the candy canes away.

So we tried to make a gingerbread men trail. The reindeer came up again and licked the gingerbread men then they kicked it away and ran away.

I saw a bright red glow from in the forest and pulled a carrot out of my coat pocket. Rudolph came. I said Rudolph please get the other reindeer. If you do I will give you this carrot, I bribed.

Rudolph nodded his head... yes. He signalled the other reindeer with his bright glow of his nose and I gave him his carrot. I got the reindeer back to the sleigh. Santa got back into the sleigh so we started walking into the house.

And then we heard Thump Thump. We saw our parents behind us. Santa winked at me and made our parents go back to bed.

He chuckled Ho ho ho Merry Christmas to all and to all a good-night as he was flying away.

By Fallon

I Was Naughty

"No presents, no presents, no presents!" I yelled when I looked under my Christmas tree.

But there was a note and I learned that I was on The Naughty List. "Oh no," I scratched my head. Santa gave me a list of tips.

Tip #1 He said to stop banging my fists on the table at school.

Tip #2 He said I need to make my bed and to put my dirty laundry away.

Tip #3 He said I need to do the dirty dishes and put them away.

Tip #4 He said to stop burping and say excuse me!

I was good for the next 364 days. When it was Christmas again I looked under my Christmas tree. My heart was pumping. I was so surprised I got a lot of presents this year.

I put milk and cookies on the table for santa to eat because I know that Santa likes cookies and milk.

By Coltyn

see more stories on page 25

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
from Norm, Adele & family

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Season's Greetings

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Thank you for doing business
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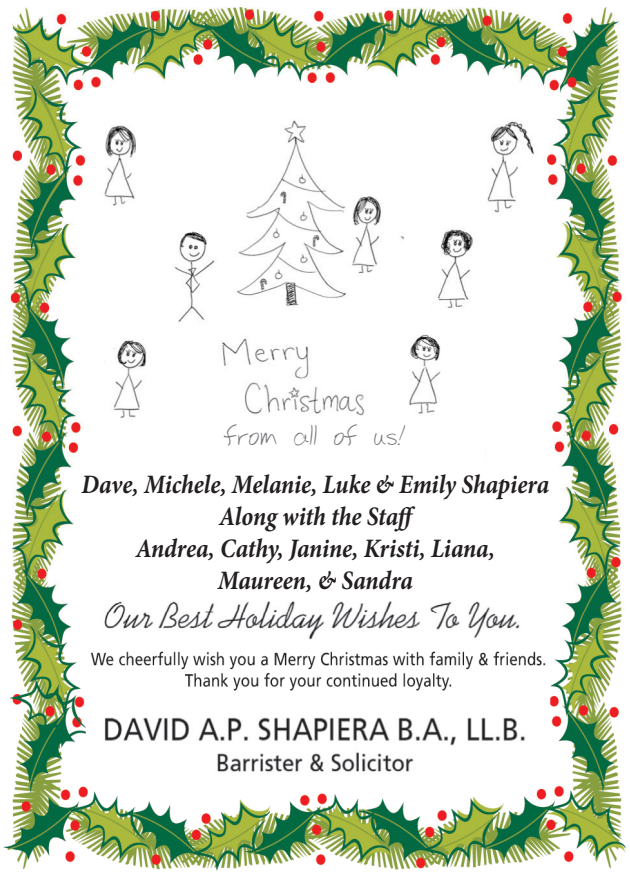
We wish you a safe and
Happy Holiday Season
and a prosperous 2018.
G. Rowden Construction



Dave, Michele, Melanie, Luke & Emily Shapiera
Along with the Staff
Andrea, Cathy, Janine, Kristi, Liana,
Maureen, & Sandra
Our Best Holiday Wishes To You.

We cheerfully wish you a Merry Christmas with family & friends.
Thank you for your continued loyalty.

DAVID A.P. SHAPIERA B.A., LL.B.
Barrister & Solicitor

we love the holidays too!

HOLIDAY HOURS

DEC. 24.....7 AM - 5 PM
DEC. 25.....CLOSED

DEC. 26.....8 AM – 5 PM
DEC. 27-30.....7 AM – 9 PM

DEC 31.....7 AM - 5 PM
JAN. 1.....CLOSED

OWNED & OPERATED BY TODD'S YOUR NEIGHBOURS
independent YOUR INDEPENDENT GROCER

Wanakita hosts annual Breakfast with Santa

Sarah Bell returned to Camp Wanakita to take photos of kids with Santa, who was kept very busy holding newborns, juggling kids on both knees and smiling for family group shots. /SUE TIFFIN Staff

A Zoo To You show proved popular for both kids and adults alike, some who were brave enough – with strength in numbers – to decorate themselves with a Burmese Python.

Leanne Angus, left, enjoyed volunteering at Camp Wanakita's Breakfast with Santa last year, so returned to help again – this time as a face painter.

With Our Thanks at the Holidays

From all the Staff at

WEST GUILFORD Shopping Centre

Bill & Edna

Chad & Steph
Jason, Cori & Piper
Chase & Ellie
Rebecca Currie
Andrew Flowers
Chris Chumbley
Lahna McClory
Jen Coates
Bre Allin
Angela Hayward

and the Rest of the Gang
www.wgsc.ca

SUBWAY

Wishing You A Safe And Happy Holiday Season

From the Management and Staff of Subway

177 Highland St, Haliburton
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Happy Holidays from your friends at PET TYME

"Home of Fine Dining & Entertainment for your Pet"
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Sharp Electric

Merry & Bright Christmas Wishes

Gerald & Krysta,
Ron, Bill, Jenn, Nathan,
Kevin, Philip, Greg,
Josh, Dawson & Alex

Happy Holidays From Our Home to Yours

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Custom Homes & Cottages • Custom Interiors • Renovations

Christmas Stories by Mrs. Coneybeare's 3A

Engine Troubles

by Jake Mantle

Thump thump thump! My heart was racing faster than normal. I yawned and I stretched. I ran downstairs and got dressed. I ran outside and started my ATV as fast as I could then I zoomed down the laneway. I looked up I could not believe my eyes. Santa's sleigh was coming straight for me.

I flashed as fast as I could to get out of his way. He missed me by an inch. I turned around. I asked, "Santa what is wrong?" He sighed, "My engine has failed me."

I have a spare engine in the pit but I need a forklift. Santa gave me some money to rent a forklift.

I raced to town and rented a forklift. I zoomed back home. I rushed down to the pit and brought the spare engine to where the sleigh had crashed. I attached a chain. I lifted the broken engine out and put the spare engine in the sleigh.

Santa smiled and patted me on the back. Santa cheered, "I'm so impressed. Thank you Mr. Jacob! I'm going to give you a special present."

The next day when I woke up I saw a brand new shiny yellow and black forklift with a giant bow on it. It was outside the window. I was jumping with joy because now I have my own forklift!

I Saved Christmas

by Holly

Bang Bang Boom! It was the night before Christmas and we were all asleep when we heard that loud noise coming from downstairs. So me and my sister Jess, tiptoed downstairs to find out what that noise was.

The next thing you know Santa's sleigh was in our living room.

We wanted to help. We fixed his sleigh and presents because the presents were ripped and the sled got scratched.

We painted it back to normal. I was so happy because I saved Christmas and made Santa happy too. It was my proudest Christmas ever.

Santa's Bump

by Hailey

It was a cold and snowy night. It was the best Christmas ever for me and my family. We went to bed early because we thought it would make Christmas arrive faster but it didn't make any difference.

It was the middle of the night and we heard a crackle noise coming from downstairs. We all got up and scurried quietly down the stairs. We were shocked when we saw Santa standing in front of us. He was rubbing his head and had tears in his eyes.

I hugged Santa and asked, "Are you ok Santa?" Santa said, "Ya, I just bumped my head but I can use my magic to make the bump go away. Don't worry Hailey!"

Santa clapped his hands 3 times and did a little shake. Magically the bump disappeared.

Santa laughed out loud, "Ho ho ho! Ok, now you guys get back to sleep so I can deliver these presents." For Christmas Santa gave me some magic too.

Monkey Stole My Christmas Presents

By Jackson

It was Christmas day and there was a little Monkey under my Christmas tree. It stole my gifts. It put my gifts in a big bag and it jumped out the window.

I made many gingerbread cookies to lure the monkey back into my house. The monkey didn't seem to like them.

I made a trail of candy to lure the monkey back into my house, the monkey didn't seem to like the candy either.

Then I made a trail of bananas and he loved it. While monkey was peeling open the bananas I snuck up and snatched my gifts back.

Me and monkey ended up being friends. We had the best Christmas ever.

The Wrong Date

by Jace

My costume was dripping water. I was shivery and cold and ready to be done with Halloween. It was a dark and damp night.

Everybody was going home and then we heard something holler out, "Ho ho ho!"

So we looked up but nothing was there.

When I got home I snuggled into my bed. Next I heard clop clop clop on the roof! So I ran to the living room and to my surprise our Christmas tree was suddenly up and decorated.

Just then I heard jingling from the mud room. So I ran to the mud room and I saw old St. Nick. I said it's not Christmas and I laughed my head off.

I felt awesome because I chatted with Old St. Nick!!!!!!!!

Santa Bonked his Head

By Chloe & Shaylene

One Christmas Eve I was in bed sleeping and I heard a noise coming from the living room.

I went to go check it out and I found Santa. He bumped his head off of my chimney. My mom came racing down the stairs. I asked, "Santa are you okay?" He replied, "Ouch, where am I? Who are you? What's going on?"

I said, "You're in my living room and you´re Santa Claus. My name is Chloe. This is my mother Jen. Santa you need to get back to delivering presents it's almost 12 midnight."

Santa said, "I don't remember what am I supposed to be doing. Please get me an ice pack." Mom, we have to bring back Santa's memory so he can deliver presents.

How about we make some magic memory cookies? Santa ate the cookies and brought his memory back.

Santa got back into his sleigh and yelled, "HO HO HO! Merry Christmas everyone! Thank you Chloe giving me back my memory."

Santa's Big Red Bag

By Nolan

I was excited so I woke up to see Santa. So I walked to the window. I looked out the window and I saw Santa. He was running. He tripped over my hockey stick, it was frozen solid standing up. His big red bag rolled into the ditch.

I zoomed outside and asked Santa, "Are you okay?" I reached into the ditch to get the big red bag.

Santa said, "I'm okay Nolan and thanks for your help." I got the bag and Santa gave me a large present with my name on it.

I opened it and I got a rocket boost skateboard. I drove Santa up to the roof and off he went to deliver presents.

The Reindeer Ran Away

By Emma

Twas the night before Christmas and two elves, Emma and Chloe were working in the workshop. One elf was getting the presents ready for the sled.

The other elf tied a knot to the sled to attach the reindeer.

Santa slammed the door and scared the elf and the knot came undone. The reindeer ran away.

The elves made a trail of turkey to the workshop to attract the reindeer. But it did not work.

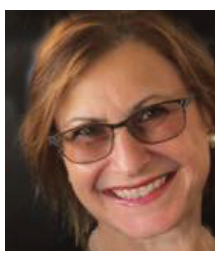
The elves made a trail of crab but the reindeer did not come.

The elves made a trail of carrots and the reindeer came back to the workshop.

Christmas was saved!

Christmas artwork by students at Stuart Baker Elementary School

Holidays bring rich moments to cherish



MARCI MANDEL
On The White Trail

TRADITION. TRADITION! What is the holiday season if not a series of much anticipated and enjoyed traditions! Whether it's our annual trip to Abbey Gardens to get the tree, or joining friends downtown for local shopping, or staying up late into the evening in early December to finish creating photobooks for the children, the lead up to the holidays is filled with such rich moments to cherish, who needs shortbread!

I started making photobooks when my grandsons were very young as a way to help them remember their childhoods. They're nine now, and I don't dare stop quite yet as I'd miss the pleasure of watching the boys smile and joke as they flip through the pages while their parents peek curiously over their shoulders.

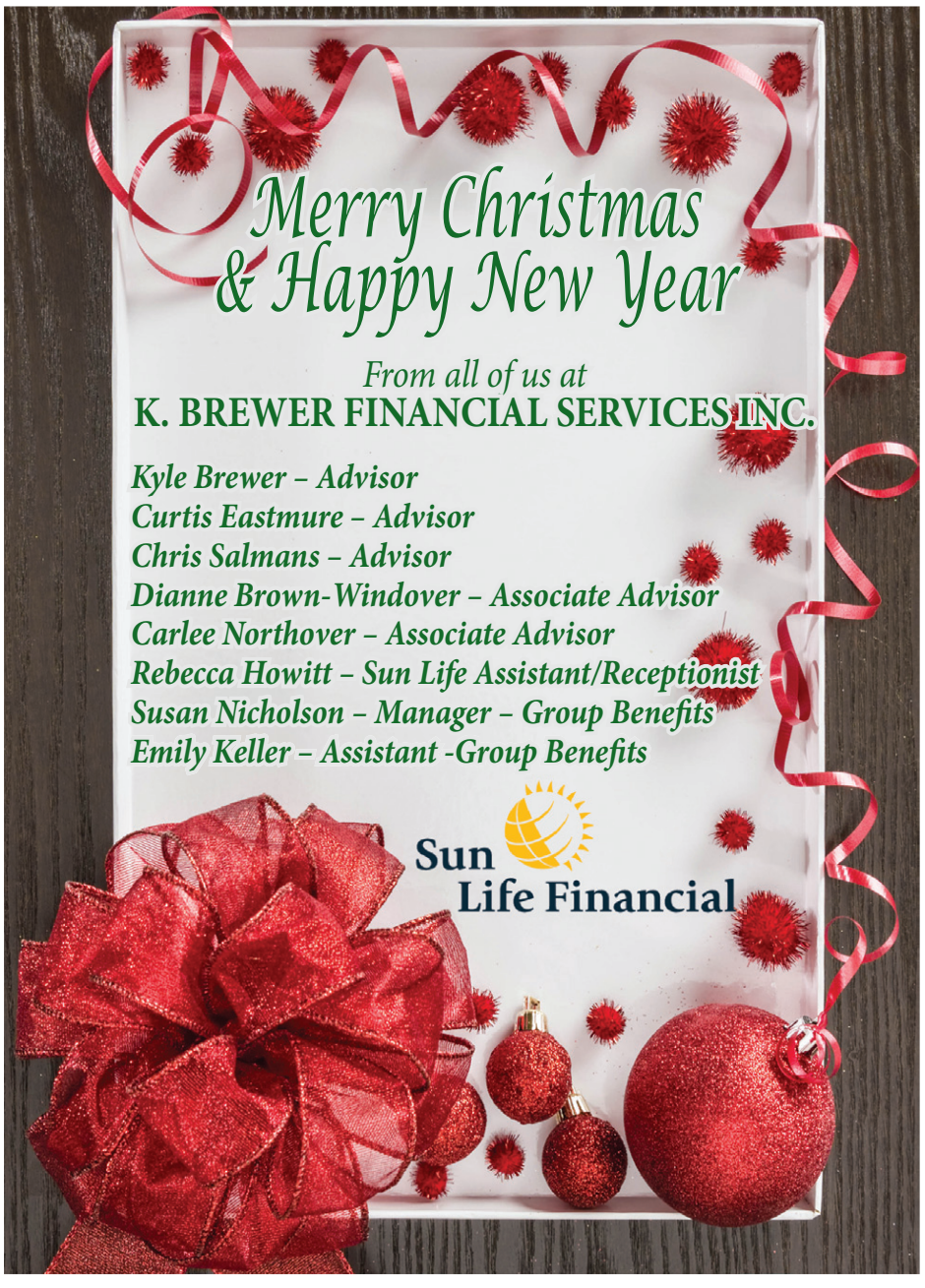
Creating the books is quite a special time: sorting through all the images, picking the ones that would narrate their true essence, then cropping and correcting them. Liam (on page 27) is the happiest kid who appreciates *everything*! Remembering his joy on Canada Day still lightens my heart! Nathan loves the magic of a story and a disappearing coin. He vanished that yellow ball and we still haven't found it. Then there are the five-year-olds: Samuel is a boy in motion whose enthusiasm is infectious. Obviously we didn't take this photo fast enough for him. And then there's Lottie, our fairy princess who heals dragonflies and tired Nanas with her soulfulness.

Yes, making photobooks and lingering late into the night with these moments is my favourite holiday tradition. Something comes over me when I link the best of times together. The hard shell that keeps my mushy parts safe seems to dissolve with each "ooh" and "aah" until I'm fully absorbed in the wonder of the season and of all of life.

I guess this is what traditions do: take us out of the ordinary and unwrap our best parts. The rational mind is given

see page 27

Books filled with photos of the year past helps remember all the good times.


Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
From all of us at
K. BREWER FINANCIAL SERVICES INC.
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Chris Salmans – Advisor
Dianne Brown-Windover – Associate Advisor
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Susan Nicholson – Manager – Group Benefits
Emily Keller – Assistant -Group Benefits
Sun Life Financial

Joy is all around when we choose to see it

from page 26

a vacation and our innocence is given free reign. How else can you explain watching the same movie five times in a week, or wearing goofy sweaters, or eating all those sweets! None of it makes good sense, and that's OK. That place where joy wells from is a mystery and is most contagious when approached, not through the head, but through a wondrous opened heart. We don't have to get what we want to be happy, we just need to refocus and tap into the well of joy.

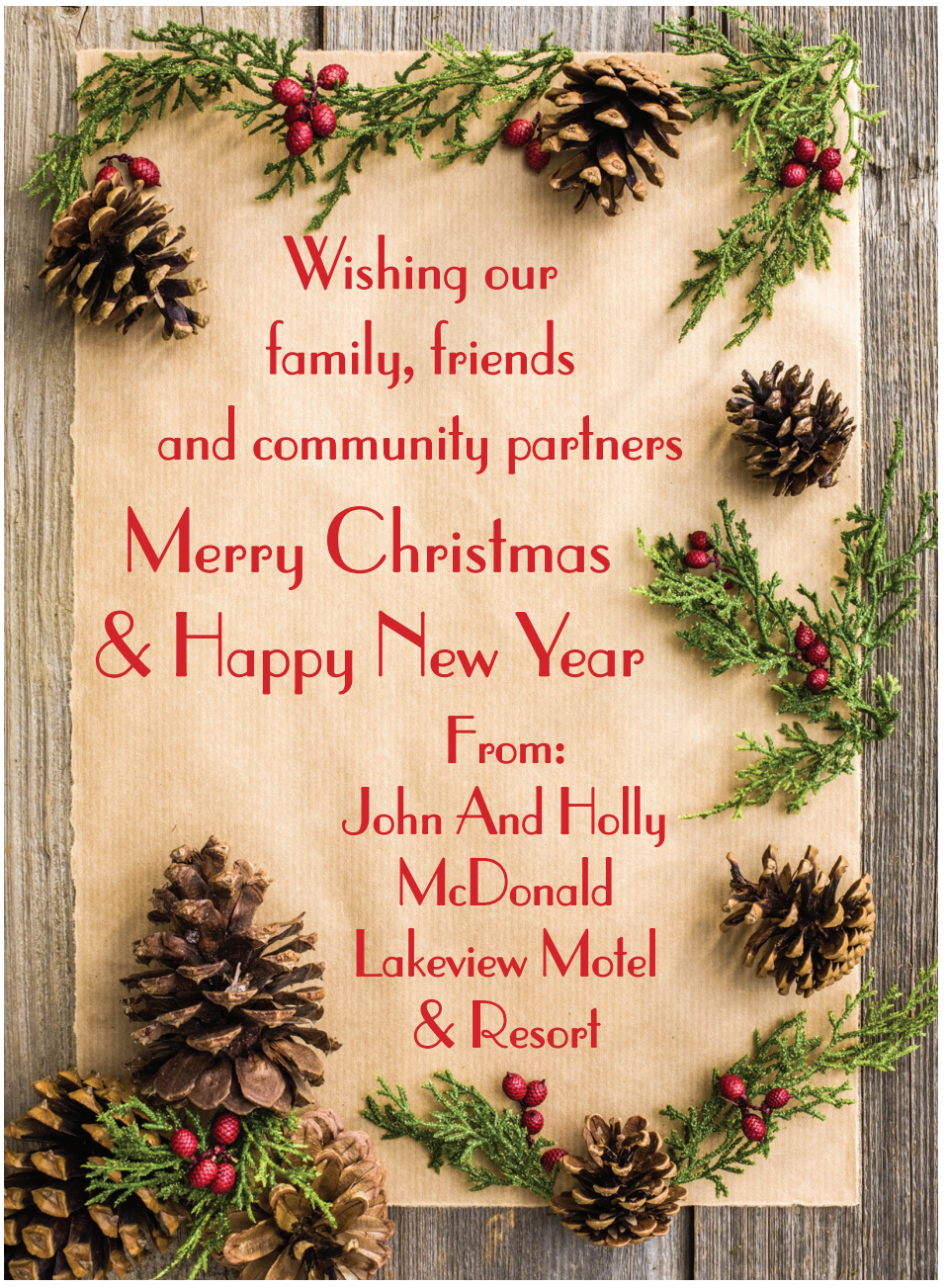
Luckily, there are lots of cute pictures and videos of pets and babies online right now to help us soften. Did you see the one with the circus dogs dressed up as elves? The young girl with the angelic voice? The babies laughing with Santa? Joy is all around when we choose to see it, to focus on it. In fact, when we watch holiday movies, mostly we see people letting their guard down and softening into joy. It feels good. It feels right. It feels true.

What a gift this season is, with its time to focus on joy, it truly is a most wonderful time of the year. How fortunate we are to have young masters of happiness around who help us soften into appreciation, magic, enthusiasm, and soulfulness. Can you see it? Can you feel it?

Smile!

Happy holiday traditions, one and all!

Photos of family can reveal the essence of people– especially the characters in the family!



Behind the scenes with the Lily Ann's Dream Team

JENN WATT
County Life Editor

The racks at the Lily Ann are always changing as volunteers switch out clothes that don't sell with the steady stream of donations coming in. /JENN WATT Staff

It's a Wednesday morning in December, just after nine. The swift wind outside smells like snow as it whips dust down York Street and blows items out of the pile of donations at the door of the Lily Ann Thrift Store in Haliburton.

No matter how diligently volunteers work each day to gather and process the items left at the door, there's always more. People in the Haliburton Highlands just like to give back, says volunteer Julia Robertson.

Robertson is working in the sorting area of the shop, to the left of the outdoor pile of donations. She's got the coffee on and she and two other volunteers are busy sifting through today's items. There are Christmas ball ornaments, still in their boxes stacked on the table, bags of clothes and some felt holiday stockings.

The volunteers who come in to sort donations are referred to as the "Dream Team," which is said as a joke, but is far more accurate than they give themselves credit for.

Six days a week, the shop is alive with activity as these community members staff the cash register, sort clothes, clean and organize the merchandise.

On Wednesday, Dec. 6, volunteer David Ogilvie arrives at 9:40 a.m. to prepare for the onslaught of shoppers. He stocks the cash register and checks in with the Dream Team before opening the doors a little before the official store opening of 10 a.m.

As predicted, a lineup of eager customers has congregated at the door and they spill in along with a blast of cold air, swooping like seasoned pros to their desired rack of clothing.

Ogilvie moved to the Highlands about eight years ago, following the well-worn path of cottager-turned-permanent-resident.

"My wife and I knew we wanted to volunteer somewhere," he says. "This was the easiest way to get involved."

The Lily Ann Thrift Shop is part of the 4Cs organization, which runs the food bank, located across the street. As a charity, they operate Haliburton Village's only food bank and also help those in need in other ways. If a family's house burns down, they are invited to come to the Lily Ann for clothing and assistance. If a person doesn't have a place to sleep, they will help them find somewhere.

Because the 4Cs has the income from the Lily Ann, it is able to go above and beyond in its assistance to the community, giving back quietly in unpublicized ways. It also means the funding for the food bank's 183 clients is more secure.

Ogilvie not only volunteers his time behind the till at the thrift shop, he is also on the board of directors for the 4Cs and has been chairman for four years.

The business of the Lily Ann "is vital" to the food bank operations, he says.

"The revenue from the store covers the expenses at the food bank," he says. On top of that, financial donations from the community come in regularly, which boosts the organization's ability to do good.

Meals on Wheels, the school's milk program, REC Room, pregnancy centre programming and Places for People have all received help from the 4Cs.

Julia Robertson became a volunteer about five years ago.

As she moves around the sorting area, Robertson joyously pores over the newly donated items, marvelling at what has been dropped off the night before.

see page 29

THRIFT STORE
Operates under the auspices of the Community Christian Concern Centre (4C s).
We are totally staffed by volunteers and sustained with your cash
tions and gifts of reusable items.
ncome is used to help
ople in need.
or supporting us.

4Cs board chairman and volunteer David Ogilvie snips a tag off a pair of pants for a customer at the Lily Ann on Dec. 6. The thrift shop does a brisk business in Haliburton with all earnings going into the 4Cs charity, which runs the town's food bank.

Christmas Hours
Haliburton Family Medical Centre
7217 Gelert Rd. (beside Haliburton Hospital)
Dec.25 & 26, Jan. 1 - CLOSED
Dec. 29 - 8:30 am to 12 pm
Minden Clinic is also CLOSED on Dec. 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 & Jan. 1
Doctors and Staff would like to wish you a very happy and safe holiday season

Volunteers take their work home with them

from page 28

Her parents were both volunteers with the organization, back when it was located on Maple Avenue across from Emmerson Lumber.

Her mother would do the same work Julia does today – sorting through items, making sure they are well presented for the shoppers – while her father would stop at the store in the evenings to tuck the donated items safely inside the locked doors.

She points out a wall of plastic laundry baskets, each labelled by theme or volunteer. While the 4Cs has a small amount of storage space, it is not nearly enough for the items dropped off. Items that can't be sold locally are sent to other organizations usually in exchange for money. In the case of these plastic baskets, volunteers will take items home to clean, repackage and bring back when the timing is right.

A bin marked for Halloween is picked up by one volunteer who keeps all Halloween costumes at her house until the season comes back again.

A bin marked "Julia" is filled with children's toys. Robertson has taken on the task of taking small children's toys home, cleaning them up and grouping them to sell in baggies.

The Lily Ann was established in 1979 as a coming together of local churches, which were duplicating charitable work. The thrift shop was named after one of the local Salvation Army's most dedicated volunteers, Lillian Hague.

Robertson says she still marvels at the giving nature of the town.

"I have worked in different organizations over the years and we don't have a lot as a community, but we're the most giving community," she says.

Area cottagers will drive donations up from their homes as far away as London and Windsor to bring them to

see page 30

Marty Gryciuk, left, sorts Christmas items in the Lily Ann's back room as Julia Robertson admires the new clothing Margaret Mark made for donated dolls. /JENN WATT Staff

TIM TOFFLEMIRE

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Photography

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Don't Keep Me a Secret!

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Open Year Round!

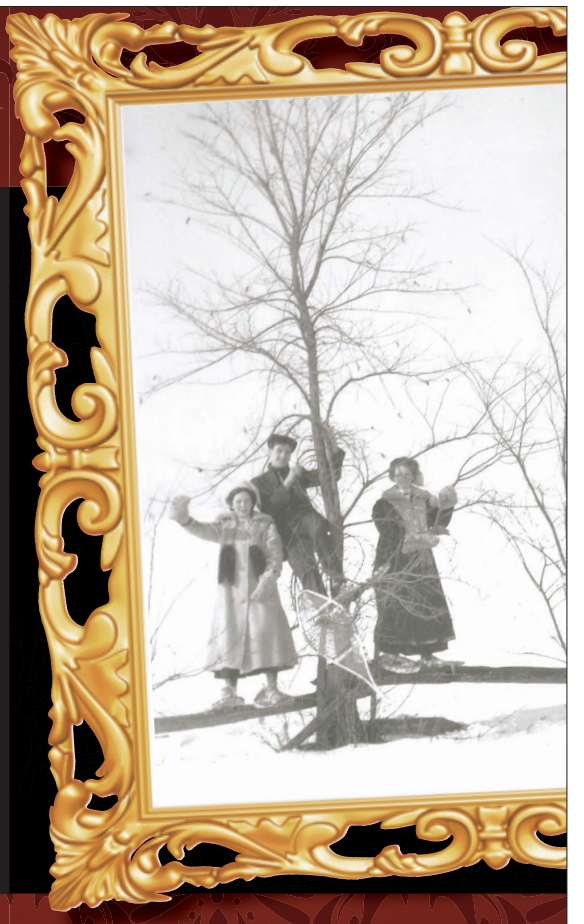
Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas!

"Here we are as in olden days,

Happy golden days of yore.

Faithful friends who are dear

To us gather near to us once more."



Thank you for helping to make Dysart's sesquicentennial year so fantastic! 2018 will bring the return of some favourite programs, as well as exciting new ventures - contact us for details!

66 Museum Road, on the outskirts of Haliburton Village

For more information, please call 705-457-2760

or visit www.haliburtonhighlandsmuseum.com

Shopping at the Lily puts money in the food bank

from page 29

the Lily Ann, she says.

Across the street at the food bank, Judy MacDuff has been having a busy holiday season. While the need doesn't change substantially in December, she's busy taking phone calls for the Christmas vouchers given out each year.

MacDuff organizes the distribution of food, but is also involved with the thrift shop. When items come in that are better sold online, she puts them on Facebook auction to make some extra money for the food bank.

On the top of one of the shelves, MacDuff has a section dedicated to her online sale items. Today's items include some fur-lined boots, a light-up Christmas tree and an ornate lamp.

What's the strangest thing that's come in?

Ogilvie and Robertson chuckle thinking of the strange items. Sometimes they won't even know what something is – "either we'll have no idea what it is or it seems useless," Ogilvie says – but they put it on the shelf and a customer will know.

One time, a windsurfer's sail was brought in.

"I thought, what are we going to do with this?" he says. A woman came in and said she wanted to buy it. She made it into an awning for her deck.

"There are so many creative people who come up with stuff," Ogilvie says.

Artists in the community or studying at Haliburton School of Art and Design will also come in looking for materials. One woman came in buying dishes. Ogilvie says he pointed out that one of the plates had a chip out of it. She told him that was OK; she was intending to take it home and smash it into little pieces for a mosaic she was making.

Across the street from the Lily Ann is the food bank, which benefits from sales at the thrift shop. /JENN WATT Staff

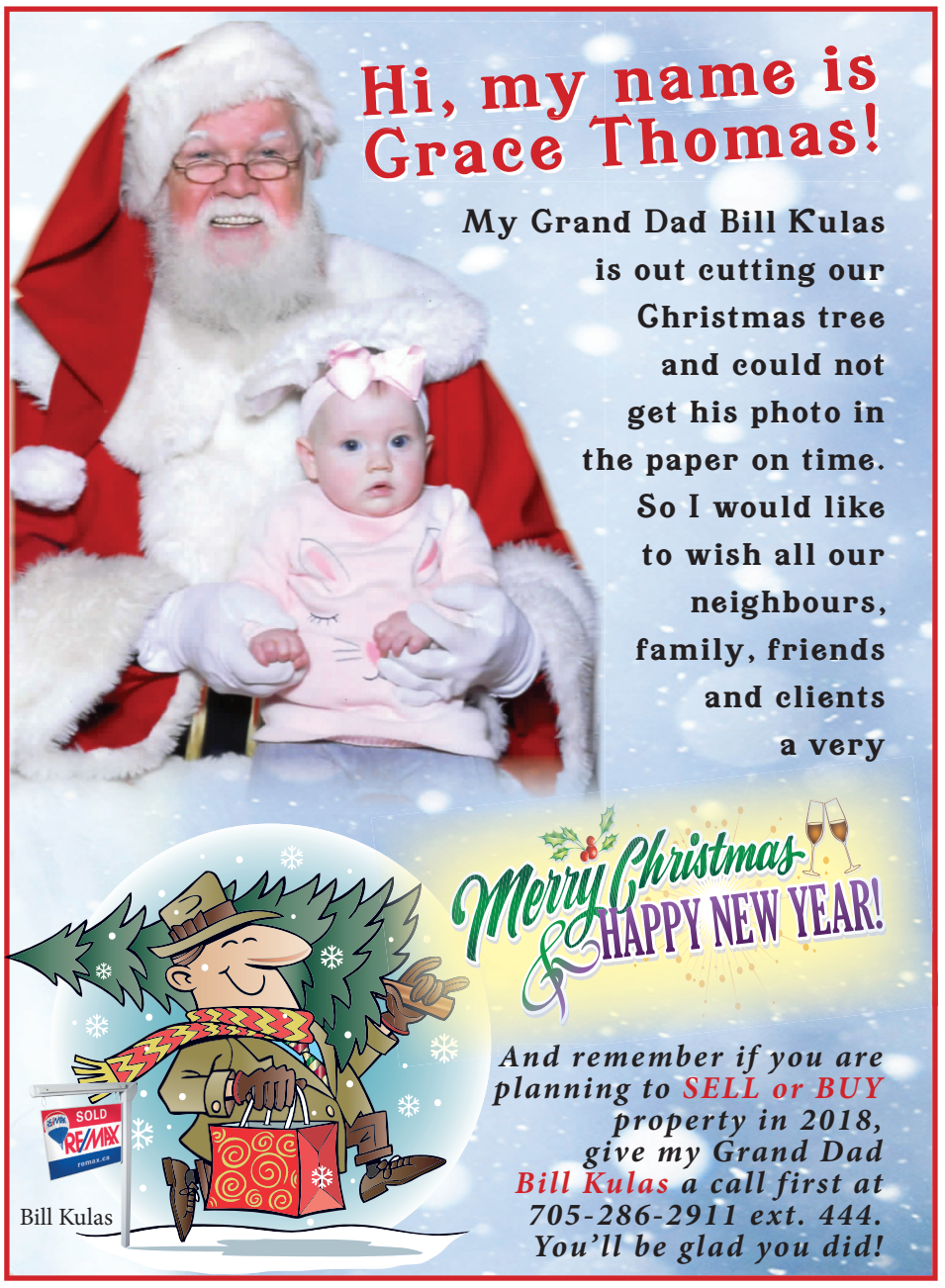
They've also had several people come in to re-buy their clothing after a family member unwittingly donated them in error.

Since all of the money spent buying items at the Lily Ann goes back into the coffers of the 4Cs, which is then used to help other community members, it's one of the easiest ways to donate.

"Every time people buy, they're making a contribution to the food bank," Ogilvie says. "It's an easy way to do it. Just come and shop."

The Lily Ann Thrift Store is located at 33 York St. in Haliburton and is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. It will be closed Dec. 19 through to Jan. 2. (The Christmas voucher and toy distribution is on Dec. 21.)

For more information or to inquire about the food bank's services, call 705-457-3331.



Remembering Christmases of years past

JENN WATT

County Life Editor

Holiday traditions don't change as much as you might think. While the kids' wish lists may have gotten longer and the food easier to prepare, local residents of Highland Wood and Hyland Crest say Christmases over the last 80 to 90 years have remained pretty much the same.

We chatted with four women about what they remember of Christmases long, long ago.

Ruth Bennett

Norma Carter

Diane Pratt

Gladys Connelly

Continuing Recipes

Christmas for Norma Carter is the smell of plum pudding and shortbread, baked with care (and patience) by her grandmother. Carter lives in Hyland Crest, but she grew up in Toronto. Her connection to the area comes from cottaging on Balsam Lake south of Minden.

She said she learned how to make shortbread from her Scottish grandmother, who made it the best. She decided not to continue making the plum pudding, however.

"We used to have to hang the plum pudding down in the basement so it would ripen. Maybe a week or so, 10 days," she said.

Diane Pratt's mother was British and brought an authentic recipe over the ocean with her.

"Yorkshire pudding was the big thing [during the holidays]," she said. "It's between a bread and a biscuit [consistency]." Pratt learned the recipe from her mother, so she could make it for her own kids. She lives in Hyland Crest in Minden, the town she and her family moved to when she was six years old.

For some, Christmas meant the arrival of foods that were unusual to their diets, like citrus fruit. But for Gladys Connelly, born in 1930, her family's farm near Eau Claire, Ont., was so far from any stores, they used the foods they had preserved.

"On the farm it was eight miles to the nearest grocery store. … We had a cellar under the house and in that cellar we had some bins and in those bins was sand and we would bury the vegetables and fruit and stuff in the sand. There was no electricity. We had oil lamps and no hydro. We had to cook everything on the stove, the wood stove," said Connelly, who lives in Highland Wood in Haliburton.

The Pleasure of Presents

Ruth Bennett remembers a large box arriving in the mail filled with presents. Her parents lived too far away from her aunts and uncles to get together during the holidays, so they'd send gifts for the kids in one big package.

"After a lovely breakfast it took ages. It took hours. We didn't just sit down and scrabbly open our presents," said Bennett, who lives at Highland Wood.

Born in 1931, Christmases of Bennett's youth presented the additional challenge of being right in the middle of the Depression, making finances tight.

"We thought we were in Seventh Heaven. We made a lot of our Christmas gifts," she said.

Gladys Connelly was one of five children, so gifts were never extravagant. Nevertheless, she doesn't remember ever feeling hard-done-by.

"I still think that we were more grateful and I think we were happier with less. Today they get piles of stuff and we did not get that but we were happy with what we got," she said.

In Norma Carter's home, there would be no presents to see until the moment the clock struck midnight. In fact, there'd be no Christmas tree at all until that point.

"My aunt and uncle used to come every Christmas Eve and we [kids] went to bed (of course we had to go to bed early for Santa Claus coming) and they … used to come to decorate the Christmas tree," she said.

"You weren't allowed to see the tree until Santa Claus had come. I think that was an old tradition. When we came down on Christmas Eve, the lights were all lit on the tree and oh, it was a beautiful sight. My dad was there to greet us and wish us a Merry Christmas."

A Time of Faith

Diane Pratt, who was born in 1943, said attending church has always been a big part of her celebrations. When her family moved to Minden, they started attending the Minden United Church. For her, "the spiritual part of it" is most important.

Ruth Bennett often had visitors in her home during the holidays, frequently connected to her through the church. The family would open their home to strangers, inviting them to share a holiday feast.

"At Christmastime it's certainly an element of faith considering the many things Jesus said about being your brother's keeper," she said.

As an adult, Bennett's family moved around Canada and the U.S. quite a lot, spending a decade in Illinois. "We were put in touch with women who had recently got out of prison and were reintegrating into society and could use some help and companionship. We got to know several women that way," she said. Some of the people they met ended up being long-term friends.

They also welcomed international students from Japan one year and another year Hungarian refugees.

When she asked her daughter, Margie, what she remembered of holidays of her youth, it was the dinner guests that stood out.

Bennett said the tradition of inviting guests into their home was something she learned from her parents. Her mother was a teacher and met many so-called "Newcomers," who left Europe following the war.

"She got to know a lot of Newcomers and they would invite each family for a meal and this was around 1945 so I would have been around 14 and I can remember so many of them looking around our home and saying this is our first time in a Canadian home. No one else had invited them for dinner," she said.

Dancing the Night Away

Carter said music was a key part of all of her family Christmases. She remembers members of the Salvation Army going door to door, singing carols and collecting donations.

In her own home, dancing and singing were a staple of celebrations.

"We had so much fun. We used to get together every Christmas and have a sing-along – the whole family," she said.

As an adult, she and her siblings would gather at her brother's house and the music came with them.

"[My brother] had these jingle bells he wore around his wrist... and you had to sing *Here Comes Santa Claus* and dance and give everybody a present," she said. "We used to dance a lot at parties and things like that. They were the good old days."

Away from home on the holidays

SUE TIFFIN
County Life Staff

Oh, there's no place like home for the holidays
'Cause no matter how far away you roam
When you pine for the sunshine of a friendly gaze
For the holidays, you can't beat home, sweet home.

Mikaela Gordon spent her first Christmas away from home on the other side of the world from snow and holiday tradition and family in Minden. Instead, she and friend Jessica Bishop were on Fraser Island, Australia's largest sand island on the south end of the Great Barrier Reef, riding four-by-fours.

"We managed to climb up to a cliff that had cellphone service and called our families back home to wish them a Merry Christmas," said Gordon.

That was 2015, and Gordon, who lives in Newman, a remote mining community in Western Australia, has different plans this year. Instead, she plans to head south, away from the desert to Bunbury, south of Perth, to be with a friend. They'll start the day with breakfast, and then celebrate the holiday like most of her fellow Australians, many who are celebrating the end of the school year – with a barbecue. The rest of the day will be spent alternating between her friend's backyard pool and the beach. "I'm huge on Christmas, but here in the desert trying to wrap my brain around it being 40 degrees at Christmas is really hard," she said.

But she definitely plans to take some time away from the sun to Skype home to her parents, sisters and extended family.

"To include my family back in Minden is very important to me," she said. "We have very big traditions from this time of the year, so it's always a hard time to be away from them."

Gordon, who works as a nanny, has brought some of the Christmas traditions she's learned in Canada to Australia, teaching the kids Christmas songs and doing Christmas baking.

"We have made Nanaimo bars, which were a hit," she said. "Except they have to be kept in the freezer or they melt before they get to your mouth. Going for a snowshoe certainly won't be happening this year."

Noelle Russell, who has lived on the west coast of Australia in a suburb of Perth for the past five months plans to surf near Melbourne first thing Christmas morning this year and get in a long phone call "and a lot of tears from my mom," back in Gelert.

She left her tacky Christmas sweater at the airport because of its weight, but did bring some Wintergreen maple syrup to pour on Christmas morning pancakes. Much like Gordon, barbecue will likely be on the menu.

"Basically at Christmas since it's 45 degrees, it's beach and barbecues all around, which we can't do in Canada or we will freeze," she said. "Most families wake up and head straight to the beach."

Jan and Wayne Cox vacation in Arizona and sent a photo of how they bring Christmas to the desert. /Submitted photo

Local author Jan Cox, who vacations in Arizona with husband Wayne, is counting down the days to Christmas in the desert.

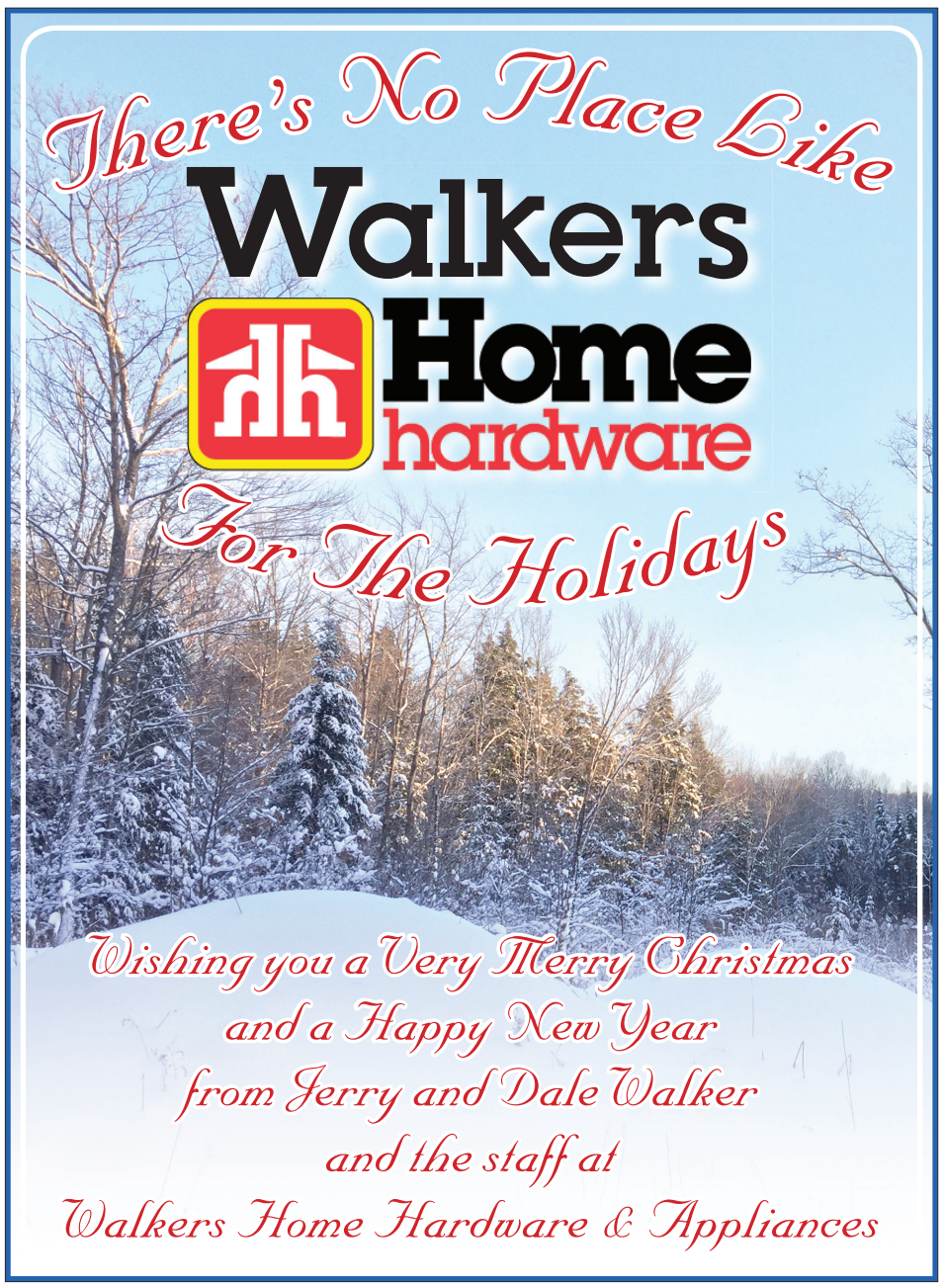
When not in Haliburton, Cox lives in Mesa, a gated community, and though she flies home to celebrate Christmas in Ontario, that hasn't stopped her from bringing some Christmas to her front yard. A lit nativity scene, framed by palm trees, sits among the grass and stones.

"It is much easier to decorate here than a place filled with snow," said Cox. "I remember one year our deer [decorations] on our porch were fully submerged in snow."

Cox said a Santa parade occurs there, with decorated golf carts moving through the community, and the recreation centre is decorated, too. Neighbours have noted the spirit the Coxes bring to the community with their festive front yard.

"It is beautiful," she said. "We have

see page 33



Bringing Christmas traditions abroad

from page 32

had many comments about the true meaning of Christmas being shown in our yard."

In England for the past 17 years with his family, Haliburton native Blake Jackson, who lives in Staffordshire Moorlands, about 10 miles outside of Stoke-on-Trent, said his family goes out to buy a real tree.

"I can't cut down my own tree, but will never have a fake one," he said.

Leading up to Christmas, his family attends children's school Christmas plays – his kids go to Christingle service at their Church of England school – and tries to get to the German Christmas market in Manchester or Birmingham. On Christmas Eve, they cook and eat a tourtière, leave a mince pie and milk for Santa and reindeer food outside.

"Santa is also left a 'magic key' to get in, as we don't have a chimney," he said.

The Christmas meal includes turkey, beef, chipolatas (sausages) wrapped in bacon, roast potatoes, mashed potatoes, sprouts, carrots, stuffing, gravy, cranberries and swede, or turnip.

But Jackson touches base with home, too, trying to get a Skype session in with family in Texas, Whitby and Cambridge.

In Cairo, Egypt, Katharine Hagerman said she's been watching Christmas movies and listening to Christmas music with her husband Hani Morsi and their baby boy, Zayn, this month to "get in the spirit."

"Hani's family doesn't traditionally celebrate Christmas, they are Muslim," she said. "What is interesting here is that Egypt has a long history of recognizing all of the major holidays from Judaism, Christianity and Islam. So everyone has all of these major days as public holidays and socially has an awareness of their neighbours. For example, Hani would visit friends who were celebrating Christmas to wish them a Merry Christmas...The other interesting thing is that there are Coptic, Catholic and Protestant Christians here. The Coptic Christians celebrate on Jan. 7, while the others celebrate on Dec. 25."

Hagerman has spent the last two win-

see page 34

Jessica Bishop snapped this shot of a snowman made of sand on Christmas Day on Fraser Island, in Australia. Bishop was visiting Mikaela Gordon, who is spending her third Christmas in Australia this year. /Submitted photo

Katharine Hagerman and husband Hani Morsi are celebrating their first Christmas with new baby Zayn, in Cairo, Egypt. / Submitted photo

Noelle Russell, who is originally from Gelert, is celebrating Christmas with the kangaroos this year while living in Australia. /Submitted photo

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Mikaela Gordon spent her first Christmas away from home in Bathurst, NSW, Australia with close family friends. /Submitted photo

When Katharine Hagerman said she'd cook a turkey dinner for her husband's family in Cairo, Egypt, her inlaws brought home a live turkey to raise, because it will be better quality than what is found in the supermarket. /Submitted photo

New homes call for new customs

from page 33

ters in Cairo and the summers in Haliburton, which she called, "an excellent weather optimization system."

"The greater Cairo area has a population of about 22 million people, so it has been quite an adjustment for this West Guilfordite," she said. "Same goes for Hani when he spends his summers on Cranberry Lake."

Hani's family is welcoming and excited to celebrate Christmas with Katharine and her family this year, who share a house with them.

"We got a potted Christmas tree, which we'll later plant in the garden, one of the benefits of a warmer Christmas climate," she said.

To the delight of Katharine's family back home, Hani's parents brought home a live turkey a few weeks ago that will be raised until Christmas dinner on the 25th.

"Turkeys aren't as common here as in Canada, so the supermarket ones are hard to come by and not always good quality," said Hagerman. "This way we know it is free range."

Christmas Day in Cairo will be relaxed, but Hagerman said they'll have stockings, Christmas baking, and before leaving Haliburton last month, her family filled half a suitcase with Christmas gifts. Presents were left by Hagerman with her family, and so a present exchange will occur over Skype.

"I'll use my Mom's recipes for baking and dinner to try and make it taste like home, but the fun part is that this is also an opportunity for us to experiment with creating our own traditions as a new family, so we look forward to seeing how it plays out," she said. "Maybe a Christmas day swim is in order ... I only wish we'd had more room in our luggage for Bailey's from duty free. Then we could have brought the Christmas morning Bailey's and coffee tradition along."

Technology has given families the opportunities to see each other's faces and hear each other's voices in real-time over the distance, but for many residents outside of Haliburton and away from Canada during the holiday, a Skype session can't completely fill the void of being away from home.

"I really miss the Christmas spirit, you don't feel it as much here," said Gordon. "Not everyone puts up lights, trees are artificial and the food just isn't the same. I miss curling up by the fire with a book and listening to Christmas carols play as the snow comes down outside."

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UPCOMING Community Events

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Upcoming Events

Haliburton Pastoral Charge, Christmas Eve Services
Joint Pastoral Charge Morning Service
When: Sunday, Dec. 24, 10 a.m. singing, 10:30 a.m. service
Where Lochlin United Church, 1050 Lochlin Rd. Minden
Joint Pastoral Charge Evening Service-Communion and Special Music
When: Sunday, Dec. 24, 7 p.m.
Where: Haliburton United Church

Haliburton Pastoral Charge, New Years Eve Services
Morning Service-Joint Service for Ingoldsby and Lochlin United Churches
When: Dec. 31, 9 a.m. singing, 9:30 a.m. service
Where: Ingoldsby United Church, 1741 Ingoldsby Rd., Minden
Contemporary Service
When: Dec. 31, 11:15 a.m.
Where: Haliburton United Church

Therapeutic Touch® Level 1
When: Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018
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When: Saturday, Jan. 20, 2018, 8:30-5:30 p.m.
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Legion Events

Branch 624, Wilberforce
Friday Wing night 6:30 - 9 p.m.
Jam session 7:30 p.m. Anyone welcome to come play or sing
Saturday Meat draw 2 p.m. - Early bird 3 p.m. sharp
Monday Merry Christmas Legion CLOSED
Tuesday Happy Boxing Day Legion CLOSED
Wednesday Fun Darts 7:30p.m.
We are in dire need of volunteers for many different things we have going on. If anyone is interested in helping our beautiful legion please call the legion 705-448- 2221 and sign up today
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Dec. 31 New Years Eve Dance. DJ Mike 9 p.m. - close
Jan. 1 New Years Day, President's Levee 1:30 p.m.
Jan. 27 Crib tournament in Trenton 29/$50 - 28/$25 - 24/$10

Branch 129, Haliburton
Dave Allen, PRO 705-457-2571
Mondays: Bridge every Monday at 1p.m.
Tuesdays: Tuesday Night Dart League starting at 7p.m.
Wednesdays: Bid Euchre 1 p.m. start
Bingo Doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo starts at 7 p.m. - $500 Jackpot, $1000 Jackpot - last Wednesday of the month.
Thursdays: General Meeting third Thursday of the month starting at 7 p.m. All members urged to attend.
Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
Fridays: Cribbage 1 p.m. start,
Meat Draw Five Draws, Five Prizes each draw, First draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw - 6:30 p.m.
Tickets are $2 per draw.
Chester Howse, MC
Friday fun darts - 4:30 p.m. onwards
Saturdays: 50/50 Draw 4 p.m. draw, Tickets are $1 each from noon onwards
Sundays: Breakfast Second and fourth Sunday of the month – 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. $6 per person.
Occasional volunteers are needed.
Upcoming Event: Live entertainment featuring Jeff Moulton Saturday, Jan. 20, 4-7pm in the Club Room. Enjoy a delicious meal for only $6 prepared by the Ladies Auxiliary. $5 cover charge for non members.
Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, for more information call the Legion today at **(705) 457- 2571**, email **rcl129@bellnet.ca** or visit **haliburtonlegion.com** Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129, everyone is welcome!

THE HALIBURTON COUNTY ECHO
AND MINDEN RECORDER
Vol. 102 No. 13 Wednesday, December 14, 1983 'Voice of the Highlands' 16 pages 35 cents

Inside the Echo

Santa comes to Wilberforce
See page 8

Huskies gain another win
See page 6

Coboconk turns out for parade
See page 11

Dysart will keep tree cutting by-law

On the recommendation of its Forest Advisory Group, Dysart et al council will reinsitute its tree cutting by-law with only minor amendments.

The by-law, which expired September 15 under a one year, 'sunset' clause, has proved to be "both effective and desirable" advisory group chairman Peter Hynard told council in a letter received Monday.

In reviewing the by-law with Dysart et al enforcement officers Bob English and Dale Griffin, the advisory group identified a number of minor shortcomings, and corrected them in a draft by-law presented to council on Monday.

The group also noted that "the present level of enforcement effort is insufficient to adequately police all logging operations and could be increased as much as two fold."

"We believe that such an increase may be desirable but that you should consider the extent of infractions and the cost to the municipality of your decision" Hynard said in his letter.

The advisory group also concluded that efforts to locate active logging operations within the municipality would be aided if the Ministry of Natural Resources more strictly enforced its work permit requirement. The group drafted a letter which council agreed to forward to Minden Distric manager Don White asking for more co operation on the work permit regulation.

County should follow Dysart lead...see page 4

The group suggested that the method of enforcement be changed from stump circumference to average diameter across the log.

English explained to council that some loggers have been getting around the by-law's provisions by cutting trees across the roots, which makes the stump significantly larger than the resulting log. Measuring in two directions across the log should eliminate the problem, English said.

Since the by-law has proved effective, the advisory group recommended that the sunset clause to dropped, eliminating the need for an annual review of the regulations.

Members of the group felt council had publicized the by-law well, and suggested that it do so again when the new by-law is approved. They also suggested that "such a notice might advise landowners of the MNR private land tree marking service which is offered free of charge."

In conclusion, the group noted that it would be available to advise Haliburton County officials if they decided to proceed with a county wide tree cutting by-law.

Santa Claus is a busy man these days, preparing for Christmas and making appearances throughout the area. On Sunday he was in Coboconk to take part in that community's parade. Later, he listened to children's requests at a party held at the local Legion branch hall.

Fine Arts School has key role

Possibility of more programs in future to be examined

Haliburton's School of Fine Arts will continue to play an important role in the educational opportunities provided by Sir Sandford Fleming College, according to its president.

Speaking in Haliburton last Friday, Dr. Charles Pascal said the "concept of the Haliburton School of Fine Arts is very important", since it is concerned with "lifelong learning" and "stretching the mind in creative ways."

Pascal said consideration will be given to ways of enlarging the activities of the Haliburton School.

Addressing a luncheon meeting attended by close to 100 people representing a broad cross section of the local community, Pascal said the need to develop effective approaches to higher education "has never been more prominent". Economic constraints have affected college funding while at the same time pushing up enrolment, as people seek retraining, the SSFC president noted.

Pascal said educators must accept the challenge of demonstrating their social value and significance in the eighties, which he described as "the decade of accountability."

There has been "too much cutting where we can cut, and not enough cutting where we should cut" Pascal said. "There's too much survival decision making, keeping the lid on for another year, doing all things less well rather than doing fewer things better."

Because of the new economic realities, community colleges "will probably not be able to be all things to all people" Pascal said. But Sir Sandford expects to implement new programs in the near future which will provide job training in growing fields. These include computer integrated manufacturing, a school of merchandising and hospitality, and a school of criminal justice.

"A time of turbulence is also one of great opportunity for those who can understand, accept and exploit the new realities" Pascal said.

The SSFC president's visit to the area lasted two days, and included a question and answer period with Grade 11 students at HHSS, a luncheon with board of education officials, a speech to the Haliburton Rotary Club, and the public luncheon on Friday.

Museum finds support

Tourism ministry ready to hear County proposals

The provincial government appears ready to support local efforts to keep the Kanawa International Museum of Canoes, Kayaks and Watercraft in Haliburton County.

Victoria/Haliburton MPP John Eakins said Tuesday that during discussion of Ministry of Tourism and Recreation estimates, tourism development director Bob Brock agreed in principle that the world class collection should remain in Haliburton County.

Eakins said he believes Brock's response means that the provincial government "would feel committed to doing whatever is possible to see that (the collection) remains in Haliburton County."

The museum, housed in log buildings adjacent to Camp Kandalore in Stanhope Township, has been the object of local and provincial concern for a number of years. Recently, a consultant's report commissioned by a committee at Trent University recommended that the collection should be moved to Peterborough and a multi million dollar facility built to display it.

The report came under fire from local officials and concerned citizens, who want the collection to remain in the area.

Eakins said county representatives and museum supporters must act quickly to present a brief to provincial officials on the collection's future. Brock has indicated a willingness to meet with a county delegation, Eakins said.

"What I wanted to get from (the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation) was just a general commitment that the thing wasn't cut and dried, and would go to Peterborough" Eakins noted.

"We need a good, strong committee" to go to Queen's Park and say Haliburton should be the focal point for the museum, Eakins said.

"I think they're open to be sold on it. That's the way I look at it."

Eakins said he would discuss the matter in more detail when he meets with county officials Tuesday night at the inaugural session of County council.

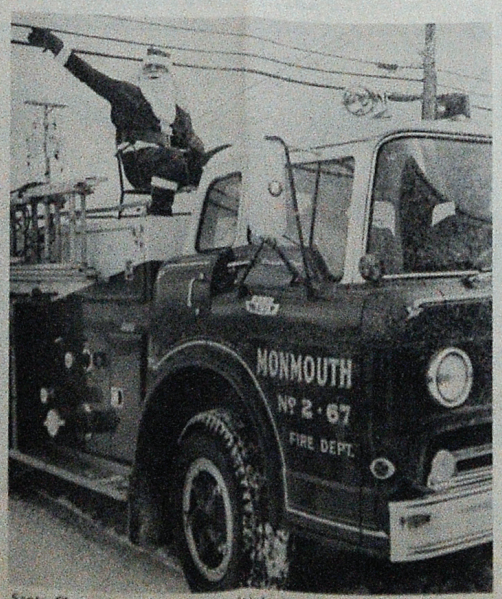
Stanhope to set emergency plan

Stanhope reeve Harry Davis will spearhead the development of an emergency plan for his municipality.

The plan would list church and women's groups, contractors, large equipment owners, marinas, truck drivers and other people with specialized skills or machinery that could be needed in the event of a major emergency or disaster, and spell out procedures to be followed.

Davis obtained background information on the idea at an Emergency Planning Canada conference in Arnprior, Ontario on November 21, one of a series taking place across Canada to promote the concept.

Purpose of the plan would be to co ordinate the response of volunteer groups and individuals in the community to emergencies occasioned by floods, fires, chemical spills, multiple car accidents, tor-



Santa Claus usually travels by sleigh, but he accepted Monmouth firefighters' invitation to ride on their fire truck on Saturday, when he came to Wilberforce for the firefighters' annual children's Christmas

Acid snow reports set

Environment Canada to include pH reading in data

Beginning this Tuesday, the public in Eastern Canada will get weekly reports telling them the acidity of rain and snow. Federal Environment ministry officials hope that these weekly reports will increase public support for tougher pollution control legislation.

Five stations in Eastern Canada will sample acidity levels in rain and snow for Environment Canada's weather service.

Paint Lake, just west of Dorset, will be the focal point for local sampling, using the provincial environment ministry's Acid Precipitation in Ontario Study (APIOS) laboratory.

The weekly reports will note acidity on a logarithmic PH scale of which 7 is neutral. Each one digit change represents a tenfold difference in acidity, thus precipitation with an acidity of pH 4.6 is ten times more acid than normal precipitation of pH 5.6.

Environment officials say most of southeastern Canada receives precipitation in the range of pH 4.2 and 4.5, which is considered strongly to moderately acidic. Some 86% of the lakes in southeastern Canada are considered at risk by precipitation in this acidity range.

Lake water with pH 5 offers very poor conditions for fish reproduction. Waters of pH 4.5 threaten fish survival. An estimated 1,400 lakes in southeastern Canada have become acidified in recent decades.

The majority of acid rain is caused by the burning of fossil fuels, metal smelting and vehicle exhaust. This pollution is carried by weather systems and eventually deposited, in snow and rain, in areas that are often far from the source.

Acidic snow runs into lakes, lowering the pH level and stressing aquatic life. The buffering capacity of a lake determines the impact of acidic inflow. A lake such as Kashagawigamog with a largely soil bottom neutralizes acid better than a lake with a predominantly rock bottom such as Kennisis Lake.

The acid sensitivity of lakes in the Haliburton/Muskoka area has been classified by the Ministry of the Environment on a scale of 1 to 5 to

Please turn to Page 3

Santa is coming

Santa Claus is a busy man at this time of year, as he gets ready to make his rounds on December 24. But, as in past years, the merry old gentleman has agreed to take time out from his work at the North Pole to visit with the boys and girls of Haliburton village and the surrounding area.

At the invitation of the Haliburton Rotary Club, Santa will Christmas party for youngsters this Saturday at the Haliburton Legion.

The event gets underway at noon hour, and should provide a chance for children to let Santa know what they hope to find under the Christmas tree on December 25.

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This impeccable 3 bdrm home is sure to check off all the boxes! Great space for entertaining both inside & out. Enjoy movie nights in your own theater! Many improvements, dbl att & insul garage and in a great location.

$499,000

LITTLE GLAMOR LAKE

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Fully winterized three bedroom log cottage on Salerno Lake. Interior is finished with cozy pine w/ vaulted ceilings for spacious feel. 167' of secluded waterfront located in a small cove providing nice safe swimming.

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To all of our Clients & Colleagues,
Friends & Family,
We wish you the very best as 2017
comes to an end and look forward to
good health & prosperity in the New Year!

Linda, Karen, Marion & Dana

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